Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-89-220 *16 November 1989*

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Cuba

Castro Speaks on El Salvador in 15 Nov Interview

FL1611034089 Havana Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of our party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended the inauguration of the Madrid Restaurant last night. This building was completed to mark the occasion of the 470th anniversary of the foundation of the city of Havana. Attending the ceremony were distinguished visitors from Ecuador and Spain at the head of delegations to the celebrations of the anniversary of the old Villa San Cristobal de La Habana. Also attending were members of the diplomatic corps. After talking with those in attendance and with the entertainers, Fidel granted an interview to our reporter, Oscar Suarez.

[Begin recording] [Suarez] It is celebrated on the 15th and the 16th. The celebrations began today.

[Castro] Who knows exactly when Havana City was founded? Did anyone give the date in writing?

[Suarez] Yes. It was founded on 16 November 470 years ago. It was founded on the 16th. Well, I want to tell you that I can see that you are happy today.

[Castro] Well, yes, I was not planning.... [changes thought] But yes, I am happy. I mean to attend such a pleasant ceremony.

[Suarez] Does this festivity make you happy...

[Castro, interrupting] It has been said that the Madrid Restaurant was to be inaugurated at 2030 and a little before 2100 I remembered that I wanted to talk to Lezcano and Chavez. I asked that they be located, and then I was told that they came over here to attend the inauguration of the Madrid Restaurant. So, I said I am going to see how things are going over there. I found a very fine show here. I was so sorry to arrive when they were performing. I arrived, and I apologized.

[Suarez] What do you think the Spaniards, who founded Havana City 470 years ago, would say if they saw how it is today?

[Castro] I think they would say that they were better builders than we.

[Suarez] You don't say.

[Castro] Yes.

[Suarez] During or before the rectification process?

[Castro] Before the rectification. I would say that, and I am not referring to us, I am not referring to us [Castro repeats himself], but I am referring to.... [changes thought] I think that those who erected buildings here in previous centuries achieved a great feat. I myself wonder how they managed to do that. Of course I know how they did it: They did it through the work of slaves. When you look at buildings such as El Morro, La Cabana, monumental buildings that last for centuries and that have lasted for centuries, then you think that they were great builders. I remember from my history lessons that some Italian architects came here when some of these fortresses were built. Then they erected buildings to last for centuries. Then I think there was a strong construction boom early this century; many of the buildings in downtown Havana, not in old Havana, were built at that time. Then the city expanded. Well, one should admire for the buildings erected in past centuries and early in this century by our predecessors. Of course, they used up even the stone supply around Havana City. Now we have to get stones in Pinar del Rio, Matanzas, and Villa Clara.

[Suarez] [Words indistinct]

[Castro] Yes, of course, but we have done something during the years of the revolution. We also erected buildings, but massively. I don't think we had any special concern about architecture. I think that now we have special concerns about the architectural and aesthetic aspects of our buildings.

[Suarez] How could you explain that despite being such a small country—and besides, to put it poetically, being lost in the Caribbean—we have so many friends; that is, the illustrious mayor of Quito and other distinguished gentlemen from Spain are attending the 470th anniversary of Havana City. I imagine that there are others who may have wanted to come, but they did not have.... [changes thought] Why do we have so many friends despite being such a small country, lost in the Caribbean map?

[Castro] Because they are not emphasizing quantity, but quality.

[Suarez] Yes, of our country.

[Castro] I believe that is due, not to the size of our country, but to its quality. You should not forget either that in recent days we had very important proof that Cuba has many friends, and that proof was our election to the UN Security Council with 146 votes. Those votes are secret; we always emerged victorious in those votes. When the votes are cast in public and the Yankees complain, then things get more difficult. Well, this is further proof of the number of friends our country has. We have made friends.

[Suarez] On the other hand, Commander, why don't we ...

[Castro, interrupting] Today is an important day, not only because we are commemorating the 470th anniversary of Havana. Today, when we are commemorating the 470th anniversary of Havana, we received the news of the crushing triumph of the South-West African People's Organization in the Namibian elections with 57 percent. This is a very good news.

On the other hand, we also received the news.... [changes thought] We admire the heroism with which the Salvadorans are fighting. It is very impressive. It is like a lesson to imperialism, which is euphoric and thinks that the world is at its feet. They think that...

[Suarez, interrupting] The Salvadorans are giving a terrible scare...

[Castro, interrupting] I believe the actions that the Salvadorans are presently carrying out is one of the most extraordinary feats ever. Despite the 10 years [of struggle], the billions that the United States has invested in creating the Salvadoran Army and supplying it with the most modern types of arms, notice how those people can fight. Notice what is being done. How are they using the Yankee bombs and planes? They are being used to massacre the Salvadoran people. Just notice how they are indiscriminately bombing the people's neighborhoods which are in the hands of the revolutionaries. What the imperialists are doing is repugnant. However, I think that what the Salvadorans are doing is amazing and admirable. What they are doing is showing the imperialists that the people are far from kneeling before them. Their actions are showing imperialism that the people will continue fighting without caring about the euphoria that currently overcomes the imperialists under these circumstances.

[Suarez] Commander, what else can you say on the subject of why we have so many friends? We, the Cubans are what we are because we are a mixture of Spanish and African.

[Castro] I think we have the friends we do because we have followed a policy of principle. I think the friends we have are basically due to the prestige of the revolution, the respect the revolution merits, the ethics of the revolution, and the principles of the revolution. Now, the fact that we are also a mixture of Caribbeans, that is something else. That has nothing to do with politics. For these reasons we can have congeniality. Congeniality, however, does not always turn into true friendship. There could be congeniality, but it does not result in friendship. Friendship is more a result of recognition, admiration for a country.

[Suarez] Do you believe that...

[Castro, interrupting] This small country was facing the empire, it became a bastion of dignity for the world. I think this merits certain recognition and liking. We can be proud of that and of the friends we have. I appreciate these friends who are friends of Cuba despite Yankee pressures. They are friends of Cuba despite Yankee threats, intrigues, and campaigns. This says a lot. The Yankees wanted to bury and discredit the revolution with the media agencies they own. However, they have not been able to achieve that. That is why under these circumstances we really appreciate the friendship and solidarity that other nations render us. Aside, from that, we are Caribbeans. We are a good mixture. We are proud of our mixture. We are a mixture of Indian, African, and European. That mixture has turned out to be very good.

[Suarez] We also have Chinese mixed in us.

[Castro] That is true, you are correct in reminding us of it. I think this mixture has also helped to enrich the virtues of our nation.

[Suarez] What do you call what you add to food to give it flavor?

[Castro] Seasoning, spices, ingredients....

[Suarez] [Words indistinct] Chinese.

[Castro] Garlic, onion...

[Suarez] Commander, now that we are talking about food, because we Cubans always end up talking about food...

[Castro] Yes, one always talks about food and at a certain moment [words indistinct] [laughter] there must be a certain smell coming from there.

[Suarez] No, no, no. I recently visited the Isle of Youth again and visited the Modelo Prison again and I again visited...

[Castro, interrupting] Yes, I became a great cook there.

[Suarez] That is what I wanted to know. I was there thinking that very same thing.

[Castro] I used to entertain myself now and then cooking spaghetti, for instance. I did not regard myself as a great cook, but because I studied chemistry and believe that cooking resembles chemistry. Cooking is a science, it is the art of mixing things. That is what I used to do...

[Suarez, interrupting] I saw your little stove there.

[Castro] So the little stove is still there. The black beans I used to cook there! First, I boiled them with a bay leaf and I added a little cumin and other things. There was a good assortment of supplies at the store of the prison. Do you know why? Because the store was owned by the head of the prison, and all profits went to him. Thus, you could find everything there, even olive oil. I had to use that oil to read at night when they left me without electricity. Then, there were spices: oregano, no, it was not oregano; it was bay leaf. Then I used to prepare the black beans. This is not a Yankee custom. When the Yankee cans came, the beans had a rather sweet taste. [laughter] When I used to add onion, some times we had no garlic, I prepared black beans and rice there. At that time I used cumin and oregano—which I no longer use today, because they have a very strong flavor. Now I prefer the natural flavor of the black beans themselves and I combine these flavors.

Haven't you eaten precooked rice? Why don't you recommend it to the people? It is much healthier; and I also eat whole wheat bread. Well, the only rice I eat is precooked rice. I want to have a word with the people of that enterprise because a last batch was a little darker. I

am not referring to those with small black spots because these are the ones that get burned in the process. I already have an electronic machine that removes these spots. I do not know if this last batch consists of a different variety of rice, or if it was exposed to too much heat, but it expanded a lot, it was a bit harder. I want to see if it was just a different variety, or if the process was faulty. It is a technical process that yields a very nutritious, very good product. Of course, the workers prefer white rice. This rice does not look like white rice, which is starch, which has been stripped of its best part.

[Suarez] It is filling, but it does not fill you up.

[Castro] It does not even fill you up. Filling up on white rice is short-lived. Precooked rice is much more nutritious than the white rice.

[Suarez] Yes, it is much more nutritious...

[Castro, interrupting] The food that I prepared there; I was a tremendous cook. I could be the cook even in a restaurant like the one that is being opened here.

[Suarez] But you preferred to fight a war.

[Castro] Of course, so the rest of the people could cook. [laughter]

[Suarez] [Words indistinct] Commander, I am very happy for this interview. I know there are other comrades, guests who are here....

[Castro] You are always everywhere, you are everywhere. [end recording]

Commentary: Salvadoran Clash, U.S. Troop Alert

FL1511183089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Commentary by Roberto Agudo]

[Text] As you have been able to note, the situation in El Salvador continues to be tense as the struggle between the insurgents and the Army continues. Allow me to show you the latest video clips on El Salvador, and you will be able to see what we are saying in our broadcasts and assessments. [video shows fighting in streets and shots of planes flying]

The national strike in El Salvador is total. There is no longer any food in the Salvadoran capital and other areas of that Central American country. There is a water shortage, and the lack of power is almost constant. Only in the areas where the rebels are holding their positions has the civilian population been able to move about. During the last few hours, approximately 30,000 people have been evacuated from combat zones.

According to reporters who are in San Salvador and have been able to send information abroad, the noise of artillery fire, mortars, and rifles could be heard this morning from one side of the city to the other. At the same time that the armed clashes were taking place, a systematic and growing exchange of official and rebel statements were being issued (?about) the threats from the north, and it was reported that U.S. troops in Central America were put in a state of alert.

The best picture of El Salvador today may have been presented by the Salvadoran Government itself, without its meaning to do so. During a statement broadcast on radio under strict official control, President Cristiani said the insurgent offensive was neutralized and that there was fighting only on the northern periphery of the capital and other areas. However, while Cristiani was speaking, allegedly from the Presidential Palace, one could hear a plane being shot down, and the correspondents confirmed that there was shooting going on about 500 km from the building. Cristiani's message almost coincided with a message issued by the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], which reported that the rebels controlled various areas of the western, central, and eastern parts of the country. The message also reported that a letter was being sent to the OAS secretary general so he could arrange a meeting between the FMLN and representatives of the political parties, social forces, government, and high military command within the framework of the OAS General Assembly in Washington.

The insurgency's proposal was immediately refused by the government. A presidential spokesperson said that to discuss talks now is out of context. The rebel's message made it clear that [words indistinct] the insurgents were morally and militarily strong and that the problem was to care for the population, which needs food, medicine, and water.

The latest official estimates indicated that the number of victims was approximately 2,000—503 dead and 1,053 injured—although press agencies ascertained that the losses were much lower.

During the last OAS meeting, President George Bush attended a lunch-meeting with the ministers. He took advantage of that occasion to emphasize the U.S. position regarding El Salvador. Bush expressed his indignation over the rebels' actions and said his administration was committed to the government of Cristiani. Bush took the opportunity to link Cuba and Nicaragua to events in El Salvador and asked for greater isolation of Panama. The very unoriginal statement made by Bush was tied to the decision—which was not very well publicized—of putting several U.S. military units in the canal zone and Honduras on alert. As a matter of fact, 60 km from the Honduran capital, Tegucigalpa, 1,600 U.S. troops are on maximum alert.

These factors, along with some statements indicating there is movement of Guatemalan troops toward the border with El Salvador, allow us to say that the situation is not very clear. These factors coincide with the death of

an alleged U.S. teacher in El Salvador and the disappearance of a Yankee soldier. Details were not provided about thte latter, nor was it revealed what he was doing in El Salvador at this time.

Since history has shown that these events, apparently isolated and not related to one another, on other occasions were related to other intentions or hidden plans, some Latin American organizations have taken the appropriate measures.

As has been noted, the troop alert and other movements do not imply a sign of alarm. It is simply that the times we are living in do not permit us to be naive, comrades. A coup can occur anywhere, in El Salvador, Panama, or any other place. Let's wait and see. Thank you.

Castro Congratulates Nujoma on Electoral Victory

FL1511153289 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1508 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Sam Nujoma, leader of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, has expressed his profound gratitude to the Communist Party, Government, and people of Cuba for their permanent support for the struggle for independence that his organization has waged for 23 years. In response to a congratulatory message from Cuban President Fidel Castro for yesterday's SWAPO victory in the first democratic elections held in Namibia, Nujoma said that Cuba has always sided with this liberation movement. We fought and made sacrifices together so that today we could see this new defeat for South Africa, the SWAPO leader said. Pretoria was first defeated at Cuito Cuanavale and now it has been defeated at the polls in Namibia, Nujoma added.

Castro's message, conveyed to Nujoma by the chief of the Cuban Observation Mission in Namibia, Alcibiades Hidalgo, stresses that the government of the Namibian people is the government of all the SWAPO fighters, as well as that of the Angolan fighters, who were SWAPO's loyal and firm rearguard.

Aldana Assesses Namibian Election Results

FL1511162089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1333 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] The South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, obtained the largest percentage of votes in the recent elections in that territory. The following interview by our reporter, Fritz Suarez, is on that subject.

[Begin recording] [Suarez] Elections were held in Namibia from 7-12 November as a result of the application of UN Security Council Resolution 435. A television team from the information services of Cuban television is here at the headquarters of the Central Committee to ask the opinion of Comrade Carlos Aldana, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, on these elections. Throughout the tripartite talks, he headed the Cuban delegation which, along with the Angolan and South African delegations, arrived at the agreements signed in New York in December 1988. [video shows Carlos Aldana at head of conference table with unidentified persons on either side]

[Carlos Aldana Escalante, identified by caption] We have taken a break from a work meeting here at the Central Committee headquarters with the comrade directors of the information organs to comply with this request from National Television Newscast about an undoubtedly jubilant event—the election results in Namibia.

Throughout these days, we have kept in close contact with our delegation in Windhoek. As you know, the Cuban Observation Mission has been working for several weeks now in that area. A few minutes ago we received the latest figures, which are not final yet. However, they are conclusive regarding the results of the elections. SWAPO has received the majority of the votes, with a 57 percent figure. Immediately after SWAPO is the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance with 28.6 percent. Then there is another group of small parties that received from 32,000 votes to 800 votes out of a total of the approximately 600,000 votes cast in these elections. Out of the 577,974 votes cast so far, SWAPO has received 331,957.

This is undoubtedly a great victory. It is a victory for those who struggled for the independence of Namibia. It is a victory for all those who have sacrificed themselves during many long, difficult years to obtain the independence of the Namibian people. It is, naturally, a victory for SWAPO, which embodies the most legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people. SWAPO's leadership today can very rightly assume the responsibilities that arise from the support given by the majority of the Namibian population. In the next few days it will also face the initial stage of the promulgation of a constitution that will establish the legal basis of the new independent state of Namibia. It is also a victory for the Angolan Government and people, which throughout these years have been the loyal support, at the cost of enormous sacrifices, of of the Namibian people and SWAPO. Naturally, it is also a victory for all who have accompanied SWAPO and the Namibian people in this struggle during all these years.

I think that today all Cubans who have fulfilled an internationalist mission in Angola, all their relatives, the relatives of the comrades who fell during these years in Angola, can see their efforts and sacrifices repaid a hundredfold. Our people have contributed with their internationalist actions, not only to preserving the independence of Angola, and not only to creating conditions so that Angola can develop in a safe atmosphere, but they have also contributed to the conquest of the independence of a new African state, the state of Namibia. In other words, they have contributed so that, after 10 years of postponement, UN Resolution 435 could be fulfilled.

Naturally, in the future we must continue to give this process the attention it demands. It is a process that continues to be complex but has already gone through its crucial moment. In other words, we can say with all

certainty that it is irreversible and that these results consolidate Namibia's path to its real independence. [end recording])

Union Leader Visits Prague, Hails Socialism

FL1511225289 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2030 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Jesus Escandel, a member of the Cuban Workers Federation National Committee, stated today in Prague that socialism is the most advanced form of society ever known to mankind.

Escandel said that despite the errors that have been made, socialism is a form of society for all workers, for proletarian internationalism, and for a more humane way of life.

The Cuban union leader said that the workers struggle to preclude payment of the foreign debt by Third World countries continues to be a priority task for all unions.

Escandel emphasized that the largest possible number of countries and delegations should attend the congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions. He also gave details of the preparations for the congress of Cuban workers to be held next year in Havana City.

Rodriguez, Romania's Stoian End Bilateral Talks

FL1511192789 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Upon the conclusion of bilateral talks in Bucharest, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and Romanian Foreign Minister Ion Stoian have reaffirmed their support for the struggle of the peoples to defend their independence.

Regarding Central America, they expressed the need to allow the peace process, which was given impetus by the five presidents of the region, to materialize free of pressures from the United States. Furthermore, they emphasized that the initial steps taken for disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, are important to the world.

The ministers of Cuba and Romania also highlighted the need for a new international economic order.

Rodriguez, India's Gandhi Hold Meeting

FL1511190389 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has held a meeting with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba. Carlos Rafael represented Cuba at the sixth meeting of the South Commission, which met for 3 days in New Delhi. Rodriguez gave Gandhi a personal message from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, which was received with pleasure by the Indian prime minister.

During the meeting, the Indian leader and the Cuban vice president analyzed the economic and political situation of the Third World. Among the topics discussed by Gandhi and Carlos Rafael were the foreign debt, the flow of resources, and protectionism.

Talks Begin With PRC on Science, Technology

FL1511185489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Officials from the PRC and Cuba today held talks on science and technology. The delegations are presided over by Jiang Minkuan, first vice president of the PRC State Commission for Science and Technology, and Ernesto Melendez, president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation. The official talks include topics of bilateral scientific-technical cooperation and an exchange of views on topics of mutual interest.

The PRC delegation will be in Cuba until 19 November and will tour centers of economic and scientific interest. At the conclusion of the visit to the island, it is expected that Cuba and the PRC will sign an agreement and will decide on the date and place for the first session of the Joint Cuba-PRC Scientific-Technical Cooperation Commission.

ICRT President To Attend Meeting in Uruguay

FL1611002089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2030 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Ismael Gonzalez, president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television, ICRT, has reaffirmed the ICRT's ties with its Uruguayan counterpart organizations.

Within the framework of bilateral exchange and cooperation, the ICRT president was received by representatives of the Chamber of Video Distributors. He also visited the radio station CX30 [La Radio], whose director was invited to attend the annual assembly of Cuban broadcasters in February next year.

Gonzalez is in Uruguay to attend the Third General Assembly of the Union of Latin American and Caribbean Radio and Television Organizations, which will open tomorrow in Punta del Este.

It has been reported that the meeting is primarily designed to promote regional integration in the area of radio and television.

Defense Secretary Backs Military 'Modernization'

PA1511181489 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] National Defense Secretary General Antonio Riviello Bazan announced on 3 November that the Army will change and join the modernization trend of Mexican society.

[Begin recording] [Riviello Bazan] We understand this commitment, and we support the efforts that are being made by promoting changes within the Mexican Army. This will allow us to keep up to date and move at the same pace as the nation. [end recording]

On behalf of the Armed Forces, Gen Riviello Bazan reiterated the loyalty of the Army, Air Force, and Navy to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari during a meeting with the president. The Armed Forces also congratulated the president on his first state of the nation speech.

In his message, Riviello Bazan stated that the Armed Forces agree with the president of the republic and the people on the need to modernize the country. He admitted that modernization requires a determination to break with rigid ideological schemes, change old practices, and set aside interests that are clinging to the past because they do not want to lose privileges. Gen Riviello Bazan advised that to renounce modernization is to condemn the future of Mexico.

[Begin recording] [Riviello Bazan] To renounce modernization is to condemn Mexico to poverty, ignorance, and instability. [end recording]

In the meeting attended by the Cabinet members, the state governors, and the military attaches accredited to the Mexican Government, the representatives of the Army, Air Force, and Navy sang "Happy Birthday" to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and congratulated him on his birthday.

The meeting ended when Salinas de Gortari personally greeted the commanders of the Armed Forces, who met at the Officers Club.

Morelos II Satellite Available for World Market

FL1511023589 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0038 GMT 14 Nov 89

[Text] Merida, Mexico, 13 Nov (NOTIMEX)—A spokesman for the State of Yucatan has said that Mexico could market the Morelos II satellite if other countries were interested in using it to send their signals.

Jose Manzanilla Santos, director of the local government's information science department, said the agreement signed between Mexico and Costa Rica last October, which enables the latter to receive the Imevision signal, opens the possibility of offering the Morelos II services to other nations. Nevertheless, he said the agreement establishes that Costa Rica will not use the satellite directly. It will only be able to get the Imevision signal.

Manzanilla Santos said it is very difficult to control signal piracy because technological developments have gone beyond legislation, and situations have arisen which have not been regulated yet.

He added that cells have been installed in 19 towns in the state to relay the signal of local government-owned channel 13, which now covers the entire State of Yucatan.

Drug Agents Close San Luis Potosi Paper

PA1211024189 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0051 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Nov (EFE)—Drug agents of the Mexican Federal Judicial Police today closed the installations of the newspaper MOMENTO, which is published in the central State of San Luis Potosi, and arrested three of its managers for laundering drug trafficking money.

NOTIMEX, the Mexican news agency, reported today that 35 drug agents entered the offices and "violently" ousted the workers of the newspaper MOMENTO, owned by businessman Ramon Cervantes Berastegui, who is reportedly the main drug lord in that state.

The news agency reported that policemen are keeping the Maria Dolores luxury hotel under close surveillance. The hotel is also owned by Cervantes Berastegui. A limousine, several vans, and trucks used by the newspaper were confiscated. However, there are no reports on the seizure of weapons or drugs.

According to local official sources, Cervantes Berastegui, who is wanted by the courts, laundered money from his illegal drug business at the newspaper and the hotel.

Federal judicial sources consulted in Mexico City have neither denied nor confirmed the closing of the newspaper.

* Peasant Group Rivalries Seen Feeding Unrest

90EM0017A Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 28, 29, 30 Sep; 2 Oct 89

[Article by Ignacio Gonzalez Flores: "The Hidalgo State Portion of the Huasteca"]

[28 Sep 89 pp 1, 14]

[Text] Huejutla, Hidalgo, 27 September—The Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca [the region including parts of the states of San Luis Potosi, Hidalgo, Veracruz, and Tamaulipas adjacent to the coastal strip running roughly from Tampico to Veracruz] is experiencing a difficult period, politically and socially. In the eight municipalities which make up the region, an atmosphere of violence, tension, and fear prevails. It has been created in the main by the constant conflict among the various peasant organizations for political control of the zone.

These clashes have led to at least 30 deaths thus far this year, 5 of them occurring in the very heart of the city of Huejutla.

Modesto Hernandez Hernandez, the leader of the Agricultural, Forestry, and Industrial Credit Union for Ejidos [Indian community-held farmlands] and Communities in the Hidalgo State Portion of the Huasteca (UCAFIECHH), believes that the conflict and clashes among the Huasteca peasants must end, because the region needs organizations now which support crop production and livestock breeding, because "we are in trouble. We do not even have corn to eat."

The representative of the Regional Union of Ejidos and Communities in the Hidalgo State Portion of the Huasteca (URECHH), Bernabe Cruz Flores, spoke about the deaths. "We have lost many comrades in the battle for the land. First, in 1975, they assassinated our leader, Benito Hernandez, and 68 other peasants, during a clash with more than a thousand soldiers, when we invaded 360 hectares on the Los Otates Ejido and 240 on the Corrala Ejido. Later, in 1984, another seven comrades were murdered in the communities of Ixtlahuac and La Pastora. The following year, seven other URECHH peasants died in clashes in Icatepec, Huatitla, Payahuatla, Temacatitla, and Corralillo."

The Cardenist Peasant Federation (CCC) has also suffered casualties in clashes with other organizations. Martinez de la Cruz, its leader in the region, listed them: Joaquin Marcos, in Huazalingo; in 1985, five shot to death in Macatlan and Yahualica; 2 years later, they killed Manuel Antonio Hernandez and Mario Hernandez Hernandez in Atlapexco; and Celestino and Herminio Hernandez Coronel have disappeared.

Members of the National Peasant Confederation (CNC) who have died in the course of the conflict include Mario Diaz Hernandez, Anastasio Ramos, Maria Concepcion Hernandez, and two other peasants in Yahualica, among others. But what has aggravated the situation among the CNC members has been the internal split which developed and led to the death of leader Blas Hernandez Velazquez.

Mistrust has also run deep among the Huasteca peasants because of the corruption among their leaders, to the point that 1,800 members of the CNC in 66 communities have disavowed their leader Nemorio Medina Hernandez, and "ran him out" of the local municipal offices of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) following the discovery that he was involved in fraud amounting to more than 200 million pesos, and because of his neglect of agrarian problems. Apparently, Medina's response was the murder of the new leader, Blas Hernandez Velazquez, who was executed by his middle brother, Nicolas Romano Hernandez, right in the heart of Huejutla.

It is not Adolfo Lugo Verduzco who governs in Huasteca. It is the agrarian organizations which, "suckled" by state officials and federal deputies in the PRI, maintain political control over the region by means of violence, according to Pedro Martinez de la Cruz, the leader of the Party of the Cardenist Front for National Reconstruction (PFCRN) in the region.

This situation is "intolerable." If Lugo Verduzco and the PRI do not turn their attention to the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca and resolve its problems, the desperation of the peasants will force us to "give them a fright," the leadership of the Regional Council of the CNC in the Hidalgo State Portion of the Huasteca, which is headed by Ignacio Hernandez Hernandez, warned in turn.

Cruz FLores insists that the federal and state governments must halt the slaughter of the peasant leaders in Huasteca, "because as an organization (URECHH), we cannot allow this land to become a refuge for murderous gunmen again."

"The era is now past when we took the cattle from the ranches of the caciques, invaded lands, and fought for the legality of the URECHH. Victory came in 1983 when we won the release of 148 political prisoners, the regulation of 70 percent of the ownership of the land, and recognition of the peasant groups in the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca," Modesto Hernandez said.

Now, as a former leader of the URECHH and a participant in various invasions of the land, Hernandez feels regret that the poverty in which the Huasteca peasants live is in large part due to the irresponsibility of the CNC and the URECHH, organizations which "are more interested in seeking legislative posts than in resolving the violations of boundaries and regularizing the invaded lands."

The URECHH has been unable to regularize more than a thousand hectares which have been under its jurisdiction for more than 8 years, Bernabe Cruz Flores admits.

This organization continues to demand that the federal and state governments regularize 100 hectares in the 3 March Ejido, 150 in Cosuaco, 55 in Cosuaco II, 60 in Amasha, 220 in Macostepetla, 30 in Minasco, and 40 in Potrero Sactipan.

However, Modesto Hernandez assured us that there are between 3 and 7,000 hectares still with irregular status, mainly in the municipalities of Huejutla, Xochiatipan, San Felipe Orizatlan, Huautla, Jaltocan, Tlanchinol, and Huejutla. However, resolution of the problem is made difficult by the political interests of the URECHH, the CNC, and the CCC, he says.

He explained that these peasant organizations are working to destroy stability in the region and to achieve political influence with the government of Lugo Verduzco. To this end, they are constantly threatening to invade the ejidos, with the result that the Huasteca peasants are refusing to plant their land for fear that their harvests will be taken from them and their houses burned.

"The only people who are guilty of deception and sowing terror here are the members of the CNC," the URECHH leader asserted. Their methods for winning sympathizers, he added, are offering land, invading ejidos, and threatening that the peasants' property will be seized and that people will be killed.

"We talk to them truthfully. We never negotiate behind the backs of the peasants, nor do we receive subsidies," Bernabe Cruz Flores said. As a result, the URECHH controls 52 ejidos in the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca, and has influence in the municipalities of Molango, Tlanchinol, San Felipe Orizatlan, Huazalingo, Huejutla, Atlapexco, Jaltocan, Huehuetla, Yahualica, and Xochiatipan, he said.

However, Modesto Hernandez reported that specific charges have been submitted to the Huejutla office of the Public Prosecutor, and they have also been sent to Lugo Verduzco himself. These charges are accusations that the URECHH is threatening to invade the Lopez Portillo Ejido in the ecological micropolis of Las Piedras, with the support of the president of the municipality of San Felipe Orizatlan, Panfilo del Angel, and is also threatening to oust a group of peasants from the Audiencia Publica Ejido in order to gain control of a fishpond.

Martinez de la Cruz explained that "in fact and by right, it is the CCC and the PFCRN which "without treachery" have the support of 70 percent of the residents of the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca, and their presence can be felt in the municipalities of Huejutla, San Felipe Orizatlan, Jaltocan, Atlapexco, Huazalingo, Tlanchinol, Xochiatipan, and Molango.

[29 Sep 89 p 5]

[Text] Huejutla, Hidalgo, 28 September—Nemorio Medina Hernandez "was already doing very badly." He had prolonged his leadership in the National Peasant Confederation in the Hidalgo State portion of Huasteca for 7 years, and therefore "could not tolerate" the fact that 1,800 peasants in 66 communities disavowed him and "ran him out of" the Huejutla municipal offices of the PRI when it was discovered that he was guilty of fraud involving the sum of 200 million pesos, as well as neglect of the problems of the CNC members.

Upset about his removal, Medina ordered the killing of Blas Hernandez Velazquez, and then sought refuge with his wife in a hotel in Huejutla, where he made it a point to continue to carry out "small assignments" in Izcatlan, although he represented no one, according to Ignacio Hernandez Hernandez, the leader of the Regional Council of the CNC in the Hidalgo State portion of Huasteca, the organization which disavowed Medina Hernandez.

When interviewed in the Huejutla offices of the PRI, Hernandez Hernandez recalled that the 3 August assembly at which the CNC leader was ousted became very tense after "overwhelming proof of the fraud" was presented, and the 1,800 peasants asked that Nemorio be removed, and even that he leave the region.

The evidence was beyond challenge, he added. For example, there was the evidence submitted by the peasants in Tlachiyahualica, together with "documents," charging that Nemorio Medina and Bonifacio Naranjo "stole from them" 600,000 of the 1 million pesos allocated to them by the government of Lugo Verduzco to cover the debts of a murdered comrade. Also, there was the evidence submitted by a group of peasants from the community of Comostepec, with documents revealing the alliance Medina Hernandez maintained with the caciques in the region. These caciques included David Montiel, from whom he received 4 million pesos and the order to force the peasants who had invaded his land to abandon it.

Another fraud was that committed against the peasants of Macostepec, from whom he demanded a contribution of 750,000 pesos last year for a coffee-pulping machine which was never delivered.

However, Hernandez explained that "they wanted to blame me for this little crime," and that because of this fraud he was ousted as secretary of the CNC Agrarian Action in Huasteca. The truth is that "I received the money but it was turned over to Nemorio Medina so that he could pay for the repairs on his car, for his lodging during his constant trips to Pachuca, and for the education of his two children, who were enrolled at Cebetas 5 in Huejutla."

As a result of all of these charges submitted to the assembly, the members of the CNC became enraged, and they demanded the removal of Nemorio Medina as their leader. The matter was then put to a vote and Blas Hernandez Velazquez was elected the new leader of the CNC in the region.

"We left the municipal PRI premises in the early morning hours on Friday, the 4th, because this was a very long and tedious meeting. It was already dawn when Blas Hernandez and Fidel Lopez reached the Puesta del Sol Hotel, where I was staying, to ask me if they could take baths in my room," Hernandez recalled.

"After we had bathed, we went to the municipal PRI premises to continue the work, and that was when Nemorio Medina took his revenge. His middle brother, Nicolas Romano Hernandez, and four other individuals caught up with us at the street corner and shot at us. Eight bullets struck Blas and one struck me, here in my belly, but it was only a graze.

"It was definitely Nemorio Medina's brother. How could I not recognize him? We got him out of jail when he assassinated a member of the Ejido Council in the community of Tepeyac in 1986. On Nemorio Medina's orders, we hid him in the Huejutla municipal PRI offices, and for 2 weeks we brought him food, until matters were settled."

And Nemorio is an "ingrate," he says. He ordered his gunman killed, and "he even still owed him a month's pay of 300,000 pesos."

However, 2 days after Blas Hernandez' death and the rejection of his leadership by 1,800 CNC members, Governor Adolfo Lugo Verduzco met with the peasants' commissions which the dismissed leader, Medina Hernandez, had sent to Pachuca to see him.

In the view of the leader of the Regional Council of the CNC in Huejutla, this shows that "our governor" is "turning his back" on the decision of the CNC members, "because once the assembly was over, we sent him a copy of the constituent document," another reporting the election of Blas Hernandez, and also a request for a meeting to clarify the situation.

"But we have had no response to date," Hernandez complains. "All we have seen is harassment and total lack of recognition" on the part of the League of Agrarian Communities and Peasant Unions of Hidalgo, and the state government itself.

Despite this show of stubbornness, "we will continue with the struggle," because we have the support of 1,800 peasants in 66 communities, he explained, while Nemorio Medina only receives "small assignments" in his refuge.

But the fact remains, he reiterated, that the government should turn its attention to the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca, and mainly to this movement, because "there are other political parties" interested in supporting us, and "our desperation is great."

His former friend admits that this has been a harsh blow for Nemorio Medina. "I believe that he has even gone crazy," because he does not want to give up either the pickup truck lent him by the SRA [Secretariat of Agrarian Reform] or the CNC bus. He thinks that after using them for 7 years, he owns them.

"Poor man, he is doing very badly." Lugo Verduzco "should not cover up for him," because otherwise, there will be no more CNC members in the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca, he said in conclusion.

[30 Sep 89 p 15]

[Text] Huejutla, Hidalgo, 29 September—In the community of Los Otates, where Benito Hernandez and 68 other peasant members of the URECHH were assassinated by Army troops, after they had invaded 550 hectares of land, stands the house of the present leader of this organization, Bernabe Cruz Flores. The facilities on the premises include a parabolic antenna, a large parking area for his current-model Ford pickup and a Volkswagen, and enough acreage to accommodate 80 head of cattle.

These are comforts Cruz Flores can afford on the salary of 1.5 million pesos a month provided to him by Prosecutor Ruben Licona Rivemar for his work as a "special agent in the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca," the title shown on the credentials supplied to him by that department.

"This is a lie." The URECHH "receives no subsidies," and that can be established by anyone who wants to investigate, because its funds come from the contributions made by the comrades, according to Cruz Flores, who for the past year has headed this peasant organization.

This URECHH leader, who is using a shed on one side of the Huejutla Municipal Cemetery as his office, explained that this is why "we are suffering in this way," crowded into a hut which is being painted with the cooperation of the comrades. He said the same is the case when the commissions have to go to Pachuca or Mexico City to settle matters.

However, the former leader of the URECHH, Modesto Hernandez Hernandez, said that as of a year ago, this organization abandoned "the line of struggle," and entered into "political negotiation," receiving economic support from the state government and exerting pressure on all of the municipal presidents in the region to obtain financial support.

Among the departments which are providing economic support to the URECHH is the Office of the President of the Municipality of Huejutla, which pays the salary for the office staff of Bernabe Cruz Flores, while the Conasupo [National Company for Basic Commodities] pays the monthly salary of the technical secretary, Damian Hernandez.

In addition, for the past 9 years this organization has controlled 50 peasant stores belonging to the Conasupo and located in the municipalities of Jaltocan, Huejutla, and San Felipe Orizatlan. It exercises its control over them through the "grandfather" of the URECHH, Margarito Hernandez, who has been the president of the Administrative Council of the Amaxac Rural Supply Center, which supplies the peasant stores with products, for about a decade.

His long service in this post and the control he exerts upon the manager of the Conasupo allows Margarito Hernandez to make use of the parastate units to transport peasant members of the URECHH to the political rallies held in Huejutla, the inaugurations of municipal presidents, and ceremonies at government departments. This is a practice which has been denounced by former URECHH leader Modesto Hernandez, who has complained to Conasupo officials and in public forums.

But the URECHH does not only accept financing from the state governments, offices of presidents of municipalities, and the parastate organization. It also receives advice from Eustaquio Olivares Flores, the former representative of the Federal Security Directorate (DFS) in the Huasteca region, and a personal friend of Jose Antonio Zorilla Perez; the municipal treasurer of Huejutla, Cenobio Lugo Galvan; and the owners of the Galvan and Juarez Hotels in that municipality.

With this "false leadership," the URECHH is proceeding along "erroneous paths," casting aside the original purposes for which it was formed, such as obtaining

credit, promoting production, handling supplies, establishing agroindustries, and marketing the products of the Huasteca region, according to Modesto Hernandez. For this reason, he says, he left the organization on 12 October 1988.

However, his departure was not a calm event, because the new leader, Cruz Flores, armed his people for an attempted invasion of the Huextetitla Ejido, where Modesto Hernandez and his followers were to be found.

Modesto Hernandez recalled that the state government itself supported the appointment of Bernabe to head the URECHH, because the agents of the State Interior Directorate who were sent out, instead of providing Hernandez and his group with protection against possible attacks on them, wanted to force them to leave the Huextetitla Ejido. They tried to frighten them with reports that "Bernabe's people are coming armed" and would kill all of them.

However, Cruz Flores stated emphatically in his office that the URECHH people have always been "peaceful," because they have the teachings of Benito Hernandez and Anacleto Ramos instructing them not to confront anyone, and to respect all of the organizations existing in the Huasteca region. "Right now," the order is not to challenge anyone, but rather to work and defend the interests of the Huasteca peasants. This is what we are doing with the limited resources we have, he said in conclusion.

[2 Oct 89 p 15]

[Text] Pahuatlan, Hidalgo, 1 October—The level of political instability which exists in the Hidalgo State portion of the Huasteca is reflected in the community of Pahuatlan, where in only 3 months, political control passed from the hands of the CNC members to those of the Cardenists, and then finally to an armed group in the OIPUH [Independent Organization of United Peoples of the Huasteca], an organization which is keeping the population isolated and preventing people from leaving the locality.

The constant clashes among these peasant organizations which have been vying for political control of Pahuatlan have forced 110 CNC families to flee and to seek refuge in the Nezahualcoyotl primary school in Cuatepa, while three other Cardenist families found lodging in the First Baptist Church in Huejutla, before leaving for Matamoros, Tamaulipas.

The battle for this community began on 26 June, when an armed group of Cardenists took over the community at gunpoint, appropriating the land, forcing the 110 families to flee, and seriously wounding Macario Ramos, Felipe Hernandez, and Martin Bautista, in addition to plundering 76 houses.

The seriousness of this clash led the government of Adolfo Lugo Verduzco to summon the parties in the conflict and to force them to sign an agreement to respect for and to relocate promptly the ousted families.

"We were down to the final details of the agreement," Pedro Martinez de la Cruz, leader of the PFCRN in the region, explained, "when an armed OIPUH group took over the community by force, and since that time it has kept the families isolated and has prevented them from leaving the settlement."

This places the lives of 150 Cardenist families at serious risk. Since 23 July, they have had to remain "locked" in their homes for fear of being ousted, beaten, and even murdered, according to Martinez de la Cruz.

The determination of the OIPUH militants to take over the community of Pahuatlan by force was indicated, he added, by the beating they gave the envoy of Governor Lugo Verduzco, Angel Quintero, who was chased from the locality and threatened with high-powered weapons, after the tires on his vehicle had been slashed.

The atmosphere within the community is one of tension, mainly because at intervals of 1 km, there are groups of armed men who prevent anyone not a member of their organization from passing, Martinez de la Cruz explained.

This organization has created units of 10 women who go from house to house threatening the Cardenists and demanding that they "go over to" the OIPUH. They are told that if they do not, they will be forced out of their homes or assassinated, according to Jacinto Ramos, the PFCRN leader in Pahuatlan, who had to seek refuge in Huejutla after the OIPUH took over the community.

The situation in Pahuatlan is so dangerous that the representative of the State Interior Directorate, Cosme Duran Hernandez, and the representative of the Huejutla Office of the Public Prosecutor, Abraham Adauto Ortiz, have themselves "been afraid" to go into the community when so required in order to certify deaths or injuries, the leader of the PFCRN in the region said.

One specific instance was the assassination of Concepcion Hernandez. Because of "the fear" of the representative of the Office of the Public Prosecutor to go in and certify to the death and collect the body, the corpse was "laid out" for more than 2 days, until the Cardenists provided him with an escort to the site, he said.

"These are very dangerous cases," Adauto Ortiz admitted, and we cannot risk our lives in this way. He explained that the state's attorney himself, Ruben Licona Rivemar, recommended that in "difficult cases" such as the clashes among peasant organizations, preliminary and subsequent investigations, as well as arrests, should "immediately" be referred to Pachuca. "We cannot deal with anything here ourselves."

For this reason, he said, the officials are only handling judicial matters in connection with thefts, beatings, and family quarrels—"simple" matters, and nothing more. The "complicated" cases are resolved in Pachuca on the recommendation of the state's attorney, he said in conclusion.

Costa Rica

Arias Seeks Earlier El Salvador Cease-Fire

PA1611002489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2216 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] San Jose, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas want a cease-fire to the fighting that began on Saturday, when the guerrillas launched the most important military offensive of the decade, Carlos Rivera, acting Costa Rican foreign minister, has said.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias has been mediating between the government of President Alfredo Cristiani and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] since Sunday to restore the dialogue between the two sides.

Rivera said that Cristiani and the FMLN have expressed their desire to end the violence, even though, contradictorily, the situation is one of "permanent warfare."

Rivera pointed out that Costa Rica is "urgently" seeking a cease-fire, "hopefully before the scheduled date" of talks in Caracas, Venezuela on 20-21 November.

He admitted that, despite the wishes expressed by both sides, "it is very difficult for the Salvadoran Government to evaluate the situation and to make decisions in this regard," because clashes are still taking place.

Rejects Cerezo Proposal

PA1611030989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0230 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] San Jose, 15 November (DPA)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias does not agree with the presidential meeting that has been suggested by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo to study the Salvadoran case.

According to information coming from Washington, Cerezo proposed the meeting and Arias reacted immediately, this afternoon, noting that "there is no sense in holding a meeting at this time when we know that Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani will not attend it."

Arias stressed that "I do not agree with Cerezo's proposal. I am inclined to favor renewing the dialogue between the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and the Salvadoran Government in Caracas and implementing a cease-fire."

In addition, the Costa Rican president stated that "dialogue, not violence, is what should prevail to find a solution to the conflict in El Salvador."

El Salvador

University Rector, 6 Clergymen Murdered

PA1611140389 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1339 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Nov (EFE)—Jose Maria Doceira, provincial superior of the Jesuits, told EFE that Spanish priest Ignacio Ellacuria, rector of the Central American University, was killed this morning. He and six other priests were killed by unidentified men who machine-gunned their residence.

Killers Wore Military Uniforms

PA1611154389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1501 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—According to sources from the Salvadoran Catholic Church, the unidentified individuals who murdered the Jesuit priests, five Spaniards and one Salvadoran, and two women, in San Salvador early this morning were wearing military uniforms.

A Jesuit priest who spoke to witnesses of the killing told ACAN - EFE that "30-40 men in military uniforms burst into the Jesuit residence shortly after 0300 (0900 GMT) and shot the priests." Some of the priests were killed in their beds, while the bodies of others were found on the floor.

Jesuit Provincial Supervisor Father Jose Maria Tojeira told ACAN - EFE that the priests—among them Father Ignacio Ellacuria, a Spaniard who was the rector of the Central American University—were "mercilessly massacred."

Tojeira said: "We are not accusing anyone, that is not our aim. However, 30-40 men in military uniforms burst into the priests' residence."

The Salvadoran Armed Forces have condemned the "cruel assassination" of the Jesuits, and an Army communique claims that it was carried out by "terrorists bent on tarnishing the government's image."

FMLN: Clergy Threatened by Radio

PA1611161989 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 1406 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] After the fascist network began to transmit, the General Staff began a psychological war inciting all the death squads against sectors of the church. Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez and Msgr Rivera y Damas were threatened over Radio Cuscatlan. That station also attacked Father Ellacuria and all the churches in the country.

The entire world, the diplomatic corps, the observers, and the journalists listened—when the media was

silenced and the government radio network began operating—to the calls inciting the people to take the opposition leaders to the plazas to kill them.

Through Radio Cuscatlan, the General Staff threatened Msgr Rosa Chavez, Msgr Rivera y Damas, Ellacuria, and all the Jesuits who are in this country and also Dr Ungo, Dr Zamora, and all other opposition leaders. This was a witchhunt directed from the General Staff. There is not a single word aired over Radio Cuscatlan which has not been censored by the General Staff.

We have the recording in which Radio Cuscatlan called for the killing of clergymen. Radio Cuscatlan said that they had to be taken to the plazas and killed there. These were not words from the mouth of Roberto D'Aubuisson or Colonel Ponce, but rather something said over the network they control. This is a premeditated psychological war directed against the popular movement, the opposition parties, [words indistinct], and the local media.

Regarding the local media, it has been already reported in Mexico and several Latin American capitals that newsman Rene Hurtado was captured. He is a YSKL journalist. We are trying to confirm this. However, it is a report that has circulated around the world.

In addition, several offices of international news agencies have been ransacked and journalistic material has been seized.

This is the strategy of ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] against everyone. It is a criminal policy against political parties and religious sectors.

A few weeks ago the Army had threatened Lutheran Bishop Leardo Gomez with death and surrounded the Lutheran Church; we do not know if it was because of our forces' offensive policy.

In addition, the offices of the Popular Social Christian Movement were searched. There are also reports on the arrests of newsmen and of attempts on their lives.

We learned this morning of the killing of Father Ignacio Ellacuaria, the Jesuit priest. We are still trying to confirm this.

The powerful families of this country had been threatening Father Ellacuria for years. They used paid advertisements signed by false organizations such as the Women's Front and Civic Committee and others to do this. They used EL DIARIO DE HOY and the General Staff to threaten Father Ellacuria.

Father Ellacuria directed ECA [Estudios Centroamericanos] magazine, which analyzed the country's situation. It is a magazine with great analytical value, read in the United States, Europe, and Central America because of its great scientific value and objectivity.

Government Begins Investigation

PA1611164189 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1546 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Government communique issued in San Salvador on 16 November]

[Text] Priests Ignacio Ellacuria, Ignacio Martin Baro, Amado Lopez, Joaquin Lopez Lopez, Juan Ramon Moreno, Segundo Montes, a cook, and her daughter were assassinated early this morning in a savage and irrational way. This most reprehensible and cowardly assassination was perpetrated in an attempt to destabilize the country's democratic process and further increase the atmosphere of uncertainty and anguish created by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front against the Salvadoran citizenry.

ECO television network of Mexico has reported the assassination and blamed unidentified groups of terrorists, adding that [words indistinct] given the intellectual prestige and vast academic work carried out by Dr Ellacuria and his fellow workers.

Dr Ellacuria was well known for his extensive academic work in El Salvador, Spain, and other European countries. Immediately after learning about this cruel and inhuman action, the terrorist groups were strongly criticized and spurned by several social groups, particularly the intellectuals, because the action surpasses the limits of reason and ethics.

The government of the Republic and the Armed Forces have strongly condemned the mass murder of well-known priests of the Jose Simon Canas Central American University, UCA, because—regardless of the persons involved and their goals—it is a clear and flagrant violation of human rights against distinguished academicians and innocent civilians. Likewise, the government of the Republic and its Armed Forces immediately launched a thorough and effective investigation to [words indistinct] prestige in Central America, the UCA, the institution in which Dr Ignacio Ellacuria held the high post of rector.

Clashes Between Guerrillas, Armed Forces Continue

FMLN Claims Control of Highways

PA1511142489 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 1330 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Your close attention, please. This is a last minute report. The ring around the General Staff is closing. We are receiving reports that since predawn hours all-out fighting has been taking place near the General Staff offices. In addition, we have seized the junction of the highway from La Libertad to San Salvador. The ring around the General Staff is closing.

Ciudad Berliotz has been seized and we have hemmed in the Public Security Academy [Academia de Seguridad

Publica] in Santa Tecla. Your close attention, please. We have seized control of the highway linking San Salvador and Santa Tecla, beyond the Public Security Academy and the industrial area in Berliotz. Thus, the Public Security Academy has been isolated and the capital is also virtually isolated. Therefore, the northern trunk highway is in the hands of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] at various points.

In the capital's western section, the junction of the highway from La Libertad to San Salvador has been seized. Ciudad Berliotz has been seized and the Public Security Academy is hemmed in. In other words, we are already in control of the main approach roads to the capital. All Colonel Ponce has now is helicopters to go to Miami, if he has enough fuel.

The General Staff has sent armored personnel carriers and helicopters to the points where we have seized strategic control of approach roads to the capital.

'Liberated Territories' Declared

PA1511153489 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 1425 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Attention, pay close attention. The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has declared 6,000 sq kms of liberated territories in seven departments of the country. The departments are: La Union, Morazan, and San Miguel, in the eastern part of the country; Usulutan, in the southeastern part of the country; San Vicente and Cabanas, in the central area; Cuscatlan and Chalatenango in the north central area.

The following is a preliminary list of the municipalities in the liberated territories:

In Morazan Department, 12 municipalities [as heard]: Chilanga, (Guanucoc), San Simon, San Isidro, Meanguera, Villa El Rosario, Jocoaitique, Arambala, Perquin, San Fernando, Torola.

In San Miguel Department, three municipalities: San Luis de la Reina, San Gerardo, and Nuevo Eden de San Juan.

In Usulutan Department, four municipalities: Ozatlan, Santa Elena, San Francisco Javier, San Agustin.

People's governments have been organized in many of these municipalities, and they are starting to rule by decree. We call on the people's governments to give priority to the tasks of supporting the FMLN fighters who are fighting in the center of the city [San Salvador]. Let's form militia detachments; let's build workshops for people's weapons; let's organize life in society; let's collect food, medicines, and supplies; and let's organize how those supplies will be sent to the combat zones in the city.

Later we will try to bring you a complete list of all the municipalities included in the 6,000 sq km of liberated territory in our country. We have liberated 6,000 sq km in seven departments.

Rebels: Atlacatl Battalion Repulsed

PA1511160889 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 1435 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] This is a last-minute report. The Soriano Battalion has been attacked near the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] headquarters. As a result, several people were killed and wounded.

It has also been reported that the Atlacatl Battalion was repelled west of Dolores in Ayutuxtepeque this morning. The battalion then withdrew. In addition, the Cuscatancingo National Police garrison is under siege. We repeat: Our forces have laid siege to the Cuscatancingo police garrison. The guerrillas are advancing.

According to a report, the rebels are holding their positions in Ayutuxtepeque and Ciudad Delgado. New roadblocks were erected throughout the night. The frontline has been moving forward constantly. Our forces have been increasing the areas under their control in San Salvador. The Armed Forces are in a tight position because the guerrillas have occupied the Santa Tecla-San Salvador highway.

FMLN Occupies Ciudad Merliot

PA1511170589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1541 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Army today attacked by land and air the guerrillas who early this morning occupied Ciudad Merliot, a middle-class residential area in southwestern San Salvador.

An "A-37" Salvadoran Air Force plane flew over the area and strafed certain points, while armored personnel carriers went through the streets and infantry soldiers confronted the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas.

The rebels, who have been fighting since 11 November in the capital city, took positions in Ciudad Merliot very early this morning and burned buses and trucks, and then placed the charred vehicles as barricades on the main entrances to the residential areas.

The guerrillas also cut off access to the main highway joining San Salvador to Santa Ana, the second most important city in the country, and La Libertad port.

At least five army armored personnel carriers were continuously firing on the guerrilla positions in Ciudad Merliot.

"Get away. This is a prohibited area. There is heavy shooting against the guerrillas," shouted a soldier from one of the armored personnel carriers to an ACAN-EFE

correspondent who was momentarily trapped on one of the main streets of the residential area.

The Salvadoran guerrillas on 11 November began the greatest military offensive of the last 10 years, inflicting over 1,000 casualties, according to official sources.

[(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 1515 GMT on 15 November reports the following:

["Attention, pay close attention. We call on the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Diplomatic Corps, brother peoples of the world. We have contacted [FMLN Guerrilla Commander] Marisol Galindo in San Miguel city. She reports that right now Colonel Vargas is following a suicidal and genocidal attitude and is bombing the civilian population in San Miguel.

["There are many dead and wounded due to the 500-lb bombs, the rockets, and the strafing by the Air Force in the northern area of San Miguel city. Bombs and rockets have been dropped in the city, killing and wounding many persons in San Miguel city.

["We urgently call on the International Committee of the Red Cross to immediately evacuate dozens of women, children, and elderly who have been gravely wounded by this irresponsible and genocidal bombing by Col Mauricio Vargas, chief of the 3d Infantry Brigade. We call on the peoples of the world so that immediately they will denounce before the world what is happening in San Miguel city. Compared to Somoza's bombing of the Nicaraguan people it is one-thousand times worse in El Salvador."]

Soyapango Curfew Continues

PA1511191489 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] This is a call to all Soyapango residents. The curfew in this area is still in force to protect the residents. This is an advisory to all residents to take the proper safety measures and stay home. The Army is in the process of putting everything under control. This is why the curfew in Soyapango is still in force.

In addition, this is to remind all citizens that the curfew throughout the country is in force between 1800 and 0600. Repeat. The curfew throughout the national territory is in force from 1800 to 0600. Soyapango residents are specifically reminded that the curfew is in force around the clock for this area until further notice.

Rebels Update Soyapango Situation

PA1511192189 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1820 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Here is a report received from Soyapango at noon today. In short, the report says that the Paratroopers Battalion and other enemy forces have been seriously beaten in the northwestern part of the city of San Salvador. During yesterday's fighting the Armed Forces suffered 35 casualties, and one of its helicopters was damaged. Fifteen of these casualties were members of the elite Paratroopers Battalion, the most highly trained Army unit and a very special unit. Today it became even more special because it had to endure a beating by our guerrilla army. It has been confirmed that an officer of the Paratroopers Battalion, which also could be referred to as the death squadron, was seriously wounded in combat.

Up until now our forces have inflicted 170 casualties on the enemy and have damaged 7 of its aircraft. Our forces also inflicted 12 more casualties on the Armed Forces in Ciudad Credisa, which gives us a grand total of 182 casualties for these two locations. In the meantime, the Armed Forces continues to bomb, machinegun, and teargas civilians. Many civilians have been injured, but nevertheless the people have continued to join our guerrilla army.

Rebels Ousted From Ciudad Merliot

PA1511210389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1846 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—With elite troops, armored personnel carriers, and aircraft, the Salvadoran Army today dislodged the rebels from their positions in Ciudad Merliot, a residential area southwest of San Salvador.

Although no official report was released on casualties sustained by either side in this operation, a soldier said the rebels sustained about 20 casualties, including dead and wounded.

The guerrillas, who launched a military offensive throughout the country on 11 November, took up positions in several places in Ciudad Merliot, set at least a dozen vehicles on fire, and used them to block the only highway connecting San Salvador and the western part of the country.

Soldiers told ACAN-EFE that with this action the rebels tried to cut off the capital from the western areas. It was reported that the rebels did something similar in the north.

At the beginning, the guerrillas met with little resistance in Ciudad Merliot, an area with weak vigilance. However, with the arrival of reinforcements fierce fighting took place. Government troops occupied the area surrounding this middle-class neigborhood in less than 1 and ½ hours.

Local residents said that a helicopter first fired rockets against the guerrilla positions. Then, a C-47 plane overflew and strafed the area with concentrated fire. Simultaneously, armored personnel carriers attacked the rebels who had taken up positions on the highway linking San Salvador, Santa Ana, and Puerto La Libertad.

The soldiers who participated in this counteroffensive against the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] belong to elite battalions specialized in counterinsurgency operations.

Visibly tired, three FMLN men and one woman, armed with M-16 rifles, were seen walking the Merliot streets in the direction of the San Salvador volcano.

In addition, residents in the populous neighborhood of Soyapango in the east, where the rebels entrenched themselves 4 days ago, said the Army is advancing. They also said the guerrillas are considerably tired and have been surrounded in some places.

Nevertheless, the witnesses, who left the area today, said that a stronger attack is still necessary to oust the rebels from their positions.

The Salvadoran Government and Army have reported that the situation in nearly all of the country is under control, although there are still some small pockets of guerrillas in San Salvador who defend themselves while mingling with the civilian population.

Army Bulletin to Capital Citizens

PA1511211889 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1905 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Attention: This is a bulletin issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces. It is a message to calm the residents of San Salvador.

The Defense and Public Security Ministry, fulfilling its constitutional duty to inform the Salvadoran people of the latest events generated by the criminal terrorists in the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], states:

The confrontations between the Armed Forces and the subversive groups in the Zacamil neighborhood are under control. There are only snipers in four buildings. The subversives are totally isolated, besieged by the government forces. In a desperate effort, the terrorist criminals have forced out the ground floor residents of these buildings and lodged them in other apartments.

The general public must be warned that the communists have mined the baseball field near the Zacamil theater in Mejicanos, next to the cemetery, that there are still some disturbances in the vicinity of the Los Alpes, Regalado, and La Fortuna neighborhoods, and that there are signs of command posts [words indistinct].

At the Route 2 bus depot in Amatepec in San Jacinto neighborhood, the situation is not yet normal, but it has been virtually minimized by the Armed Forces' actions. There is a similar situation in Cuscatancingo.

Near the street leading to [name indistinct] in the west near the Route 4 bus depot, there are subversive cells that are on the verge of disappearing. In Soyapango the situation has been controlled, leaving only a few snipers in the buildings. The terrorist criminals have shamelessly sacked the stores in the downtown area.

The Salvadoran Armed Forces want to state that if at certain moments they have failed to adopt definite actions to end the fighting in a prompt manner, it is because the terrorists are shielding themselves using the civilian population.

This morning a column of subversives clashed with Army troops near the El Espino farm in Ciudad Merliot. The rebels were dislodged, and they are fleeing in disarray toward the southern part of the San Salvador volcano. They were pursued by land and airborne troops. In their flight the rebels abandoned uniforms, weapons, and equipment. Among the damages reported by the people regarding private property in this combat area are: damages to the Esso gas station and damages to the La Despensa de Don Juan supermarket, which was totally sacked over the past 24 hours. In the city there have only been reports of isolated clashes.

Meanwhile, in the western part of the country, the situation has been controlled. There are reports of action on the (?Decana) hill in Santa Ana and in Santa Rita de Metapan, but these have been low- level incidents.

In Santa Ana, the communist criminals damaged two ambulances, one from the Red Cross and the other from the Green Cross, and they are warning coffee workers to leave their jobs.

In the 3d Military Zone, located in the eastern part of the country, at 0800 on 14 November, the regional San Miguel hospital and neighborhoods on the outskirts of the city were attacked, hurting innocent civilians. In Zacatecoluca the terrorist criminals destroyed the fourth floor of the hospital. Monsignor Romeo Tovar Astorga intervened to demand that the rebels leave the hospital, which they did with the promise that the military materiel would also be withdrawn. As they withdrew, the terrorists murdered soldiers who were hospitalized and dynamited the hospital's fourth floor, killing four other patients.

The Salvadoran Armed Forces reiterate their undeniable intention to safeguard the lives and interests of all Salvadorans, and they ask the people to listen to the information broadcast by the national radio and television network. The Armed Forces want to remind their people that they must not be taken in by the lies that are broadcast by the radio stations at the service of international communism and urge them to be alert to the Armed Forces High Command's efforts to report the truth and only the truth at this crucial moment for the preservation of freedom, justice, and democracy in El Salvador.

FMLN Report on San Miguel Clashes

PA1611031789 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 0158 GMT 16 Nov 89

["Report" issued by the San Miguel City Northeastern Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) Directorate for 14 and 15 November; date and place not given]

[Text] A total of 105 casualties, including both dead and wounded, have been inflicted on the Salvadoran special 3d Infantry Brigade and Arce Battalion troops.

The following weapons have been recovered: 4 M-16 rifles, 1 M-79 grenade launcher along with 15 grenades, 1,300 7.62-mm rounds of ammunition, 1,700 5.56-mm rounds of ammunition, 14 backpacks, and other military equipment.

The FMLN positions have been maintained and clashes continue in San Miguel City tonight.

Army Positions Under Attack

PA1611032489 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 0227 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Attention, pay close attention. The General Staff's predicament has become complicated. Approximately 10 blocks from the offices of the Armed Forces General Staff, fierce fighting is under way at this moment. Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] forces are attacking Army positions at the Democracia Tower.

We repeat: At this time FMLN forces are attacking Armed Forces positions at the Democracia Tower. This is a last-minute report reaching us. A few blocks from the Armed Forces General Command a another attack is under way. This is the third night in a row that the Armed Forces positions have been attacked in that zone near the offices of the General Staff.

This closes even more, gradually but inexorably, the arc that is extending, that big arc of liberty around the enemy positions. Colonel Ponce can look from his office and see more red and white flags, more signs of liberty and victorious fighting.

In Cuscatancingo, the FMLN and our people achieved a great victory when at 1710 [2310 GMT] the headquarters of the National Police of Cuscatancingo was taken over. It had been under siege since 11 November. Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday are the five days of the week that the FMLN has remained in the capital, allowing us to reach our night—the night that favors us.

Here in Morazan, we have always said that the moon is the guerrilla sun, and today this moon will be a moon of liberty, a moon of trenches, a moon of barricades in the capital. Under that moon our people will dig more trenches, advancing along the territories toward the center of the genocidal government, toward the center of the genocidal General Staff.

San Miguel Joint Command Report

PA1611040889 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 0210 GMT 16 Nov 89

["Report" issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) San Miguel City Joint Command in San Miguel on 15 November]

[Text] The clashes with Salvadoran 3d Infantry Brigade troops, Military Detachment No 3 and No 4 commandos, two CEMFA [Armed Forces Military Training Center] companies, troops of the Arce, Leon, and Ponce Battalions, Monterrosa commandos, Treasury Police members, and National Guard members continued in San Miguel City today.

Our forces remain in control of the neighborhoods of Unidas, 15 September, Fidelina, El Molino, Lopez, and El Cocal. The clashes have taken place in the neighborhoods of 15 September, El Cocal, Riveras del Rio Grande, Altos de la Cueva, and Ruta Militar.

In those clashes and up until 1730 today, we had killed 37 men and had wounded 37 others. In addition, we seized the following materiel: 9 rifles, 2 PRC-77 radios, 1 M-79 grenade launcher with 15 grenades, and an unidentified number of backpacks.

Throughout the day the Armed Forces have used 81-mm mortars and 105-mm howitzers, have strafed several areas with C-47 planes, and have attacked the neighborhoods of El Cocal, La Esperanza, 15 September, El Molino, Lopez, and the Urbina Bridge with rockets fired from helicopters.

This indiscriminate firing, which has destroyed many houses and killed and wounded many civilians, including men, women, and children, is an act of genocide being carried out by Air Force members and ordered by Colonel Mauricio Vargas.

Meanwhile, the International Red Cross Committee is dedicated to giving medical care only to the wounded Armed Forces members, and has not provided medical care to the civilian population, which is in urgent need of medical attention. The International Committee of the Red Cross has said that the Armed Forces are not letting it help the civilian population. The people are angry, and they demand that international organizations intervenre to stop the genocide being promoted by the Salvadoran Armed Forces and ordered by Col Vargas, chief of the 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel City.

[Signed] FMLN Joint Command in San Miguel City

FMLN Command Issues Instructions

PA1611042389 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 0256 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Your attention, please. Here are some instructions from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] General Command:

The FMLN General Command advises all its leaders and fighters, and the people in general, that in various combat zones in the capital and the countryside many soldiers and security corps agents are defecting, leaving behind rifles and military equipment.

The morale of the Armed Forces ranks has been greatly affected by the lack of control and the inability of the High Command to contain the FMLN's increasing offensive and the people's integration.

The climate of general indignation resulting from the bombings and shellings ordered by the High Command against densely populated neighborhoods has affected the Army troops (?who have) relatives among the victims of the genocide. In view of this situation, the FMLN General Command calls on its leaders and fighters to comply with the following instructions in the various combat zones:

1. To disseminate and increase appeals to the soldiers and security corps agents to abandon the fight and to defect from the Army, following the example of those who have already done so.

2. To call on the soldiers to join the people's struggle and join the FMLN ranks.

3. To call on the people to help the soldiers who defect, giving them civilian clothes and protecting them as they withdraw from their fighting positions.

4. To inform the soldiers through all the available means that the Army leaders and officers have begun to send their families abroad and are preparing to leave themselves, abandoning the troops to their own fate.

The FMLN General Command calls on its leaders and fighters to comply immediately with these instructions.

FMLN Kidnaps Red Cross Members

PA1611044589 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0307 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Your attention, please. Here is a last-minute report: The Salvadoran Red Cross has reported that at 1950 [0150 GMT] tonight the terrorist criminals kidnapped 13 of its members who were on duty in the Soyapango area. The terrorist criminals have not respected the humanitarian organizations, or the Geneva accords for that matter. We ask the diplomatic corps to inform their respective countries of the atrocities being committed by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] against the Salvadoran people.

Cristiani Tells Arias FMLN 'Defeated'

PA1611015589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2351 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] San Jose, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani told Costa Rican President Oscar Arias today that the Army "has defeated the guerrillas" of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

A source of the Costa Rican presidential house told ACAN-EFE that Cristiani made the announcement at noon today (1700 GMT) while the State Council was meeting in Arias' office.

When asked about this, Arias said that Cristiani had called him to talk about the situation in his country after 5 days of intense civil war. He added that the Salvadoran president told him that the Army was "showing its superiority" over the rebels.

The Costa Rican president said that Cristiani considered the FMLN offensive "defeated."

Last Saturday the FMLN launched surprise and violent attacks in the capital of San Salvador and in other parts of the country, which have left almost 700 dead and 1,000 wounded, according to reports from the two sides.

Arias told ACAN-EFE that he insists that the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas meet again to "seek a civilized" solution to their differences.

In his opinion, both parties must attend the meeting agreed to 1 month ago in Costa Rica, to be held in Caracas (Venezuela) this time, in search of a political agreement and "possibly," he added, to move up the date of the meeting initially scheduled (for 21 November).

Arias assured ACAN-EFE that his proposal has the support of most governments on the continent, whose presidents he has spoken to during the past few days.

Vice President Asks Government Workers To Report

PA1511220589 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2110 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] This is an urgent message to all government employees and to all employees at government ministries: The vice president of the Republic urges employees to report to work to continue with the humanitarian assistance plan implemented today to assist victims of indiscriminate attacks by terrorist criminals.

Government Urges FMLN Surrender; Citizens to Work

PA1511133889 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1211 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Good morning Salvadorans. We want to speak to all those who feel they are Salvadorans. Today is a new day. Salvadoran people: The Armed Forces have defeated communism today, 15 November.

Salvadoran people: Everyone to work, early this morning. The curfew ended at 0600, so everyone is to go about their daily activities. Let's go out and produce for El Salvador. Good morning El Salvador.

Good morning, merchants, and be careful, do not change prices on staples. The Economy Ministry has control over that situation; therefore, you must abide by the government's orders.

Everyone to work, everyone happy, and, of course, all this with the support of our glorious Armed Forces which are watching over the security of all Salvadorans in all corners of our country.

Those who were deceived by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and are turning themselves in will be protected by the Armed Forces, which will guarantee their lives. Naturally, after this is over, they will be turned over to international organizations which will determine what to do.

This is a call to those who were deceived by the FMLN and brought to confront a professional Armed Forces; they face total defeat. Your lives will be guaranteed, you will be provided with food, and later, you will be turned over to the international organizations which can give you pertinent information.

Therefore, this is a call to those who still remain with the FMLN, despite this total defeat by the Armed Forces. We call on them to surrender, to turn themselves in. Your lives are being respected, you are being provided with the necessary food that your commanders have not been able to provide you. The Armed Forces respect your lives, and will turn you over to international organizations.

Catholic Church Offers Shelter to Refugees

PA1511223289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1931 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Church today offered to open centers to receive refugees from neighborhoods in northern San Salvador, where the Army and the guerrillas have been engaged in bloody clashes for the past 5 days, Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas reported today.

The archbishop sent a letter today to Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, announcing that the Catholic Church is offering to open centers to provide shelter to people displaced by the war.

"Since yesterday we have been receiving petitions from residents in combat zones— Zacamil, Credisa, Santa Marta, Cuscatancingo, and Soyapango—requesting shelter in some safe place. People in those areas reported that they have been intimidated by the Army because the Air Force is going to attack those places," the letter states.

"We received most of the petitions this morning," the letter dated 14 November states. The letter was delivered to Col Ponce today, San Salvador Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez reported.

The archbishop offered several schools and churches as places of refuge. He reported that thus far eight shelters have been operating, offering assistance to over 2,000 people.

"We ask the Armed Forces as well as the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front to respect refugees," the letter signed by Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas adds.

In a news conference, the archbishop said the Church has joined the truce requested by the International Committee of the Red Cross to evacuate people wounded as a result of the Salvadoran conflict, which began Saturday when the guerrillas' offensive began in San Salvador and other areas of the country.

In a communique released in San Salvador addressed to "the parties in conflict," the Red Cross asked for "an immediate truce to allow ambulances to evacuate the wounded, whether they are civilians, soldiers, or combatants."

The San Salvador archbishop made a vehement appeal to the Army and the guerrillas to suspend military actions and search for a political solution to the armed conflict in El Salvador. The conflict has intensified in the past 5 days following the guerrilla offensive.

Rivera y Damas said that he has asked Bishop Emile Steller to ask the rebels to cease the hostilities temporarily.

Interview With FMLN Commander Jorge Shafik

PA1611055089 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0331 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Interview with Commander Jorge Shafik Handal, member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command, by unidentified reporter on 15 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Commander Shafik Handal, what is the FMLN General Command's assessment of our national military campaign and the country's general situation 5 days after it began?

[Shafik] First of all, I wish to send greetings to all Salvadorans and our combatants. This is the General Command's assessment regarding the situation: Although the secrecy of our plan had been broken days before it took place, its actual implementation has shown a high degree of combativeness, organization, and military expertise on the part of the FMLN.

This expertise was acquired throughout all these years of war. The Army, which had been boasting about its professionalism and military ability, has been swiftly

overcome. It has been placed in a difficult situation that it has not yet recovered from.

On behalf of the General Command, I wish to congratulate all our combatants, commanders, cadres, and activists; on its behalf, I wish to say that their efficiency has been based on the people's support. The secret was broken, but the secrecy of our forces' mobilization was not. Although large numbers of forces were involved, they managed to arrive in the cities, especially the capital, and they managed to enter as we had planned.

Our combatant forces within the cities were also able to carry out their actions and incorporate themselves into our plan with exemplary coordination. In 15 minutes, all our forces were in their respective positions in San Salvador.

Five days after the beginning of our campaign, we can say, in a few words, that our accomplishments have surpassed our expectations. To a large extent, this has been made possible thanks to the warm welcome given to our combatants by the people, to the incorporation of thousands of them into our actions, to their active support, to the fortification projects, and to the incorporation of many new combatants into our actions. Men and women have worked side by side. That is the general outlook in all places of fighting, especially San Salvador.

The responses of the High Command and Cristiani's government and party have been desperate, brutal, and criminal. At the beginning they were a bit shy, but later on they were openly ordering the bombing of the civilian population.

Throughout these years we have been witnessing the same criminal actions in rural areas. Extensive areas of our territory became deserted because of the Air Force and artillery bombings.

Now this same desperate, brutal, and criminal method is being used in the cities, especially in San Salvador. The civilian population is experiencing very dramatic moments, but also very enlightening times. That is why we cannot be surprised about the fact that tens of thousands of people are supporting the FMLN.

In this case, it is the responsibility of the Army and La Tandona, whose criminal nature has been unmasked before the people and international public opinion. Our demand to have the military institution purged of La Tandona, a group of criminals and assassins, is fully justified.

It is also the responsibility of Cristiani himself, because he had been acting as a moderate and restrained man. Life has shown that there are no moderate or restrained men in ARENA. It was a simple mask to fool voters during the elections and to get U.S aid, but Cristiani has also been unmasked. Cristiani has even lost his moderate speech. In his last appearances, he has lost that moderate speech, but the most serious part of it all is that he has participated as an accomplice in the decision-making process to carry out the genocide that is taking place at this time by the Armed Forces. It is a desperate and useless genocide because this conduct will not contribute to halting the defeat of the Armed Forces.

La Tandona, Cristiani, the Christian Democratic Party, ARENA leader Roberto D'Aubuisson—who, by the way, has disappeared from public places and is making it appear as if he were not playing an active role in the events, but he is in the barracks promoting genocide.... [changes thought] ARENA's nature as a fascist party and the genocidal calling of the military leadership, especially La Tandona, have been unmasked.

A short while ago the International Red Cross, the church, and other organizations called for an end to the bombings. In the case of the International Red Cross, they have called for a temporary cease-fire so that the wounded and the victims can be helped, but Francisco Merino, vice president and interior minister, immediately rejected this request.

It is incredible, but that is the way it is. The Armed Forces do not want to allow the wounded to be evacuated. They themselves have hundreds of wounded soldiers every hour, and they do not want to allow the wounded to be evacuated. They do not want to allow people to take shelter, and it is a measure that will protect people.

They decreed the state of siege and a curfew. First, it was from 1800 to 0600, but in Soyapango they decreed a round-the-clock curfew. This meant that any person in the populated Soyapango neighborhood—regardless of age or social conditions—became an Armed Forces enemy. To say that the curfew was to last all day long meant that anybody could be murdered at any time just because he moved on the streets. In other areas, the curfew began at noon. Anyway, even without a curfew many persons were murdered and wounded in the San Salvador, San Miguel, Usulutan, and Zacatecoluca neighborhoods.

However, the Salvadoran people—honoring their almost 60 years of struggle against the military dicatatorship—are responding heroically and decisively, just as other Salvadorans have behaved during our greatest struggles throughout those 60 years. The Salvadoran people have confronted this evil that has to end. We have to end this phase to be able to get our country to a new and superior development phase, one where we will have peace based on true democracy.

The plane pilots perpetrating these genocidal actions, General Bustillo, and his Air Force Command Staff are murderers and war criminals. They must be brought to trial and punished. We understand that the horrors of the bombings are suffered not only by the general civilian population, but also by the relatives of soldiers who live in these neighborhoods. We understand that the soldiers are not the ones who gave the order. We understand that this order was not consulted with a great many of the officers. We believe that many of them will be

thinking now—and correctly so—that their officers, the La Tandona officers, the command staff, ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], Cristiani, and D'Aubuisson are sinking the military insitution into ignominy and are killing it.

Thus, it is not surprising that defections have started and are increasing and multiplying. A group of paratroopers defected at dawn on 14 November. Also, a group of National Guard students defected near the National Guard headquarters. They abandoned their equipment and weapons, they took off their uniforms, they put on civilian clothing, and they left. It is not surprising. Many of these men from the paratroopers come from the Soyapango, Delgado, and Cuscatancingo neighborhoods. Soldiers from the 1st Infantry Brigade also defected in Mejicanos today. We do not believe they defected because they are cowards, because they feared combat.

When one fights for a just cause, honor and courage are taken for granted. Throughout this war we have waged hard battles. We have seen the troops and officers fight with courage, thinking that they were fighting for a just cause and that they were doing their duty. But this belief is now breaking apart in the heads, spirit, and will of the soldiers and officers in view of the brutal genocide committed by the Army leadership.

In Mejicanos a group of soldiers of the 1st Brigade deserted today. In Cuscatancingo a group of National Police and Civil Defense policemen deserted and left behind their equipment and weapons. In Usulutan soldiers of the 6th Brigade did likewise. This is understandable. We want to tell all of these soldiers and officers that we know how to draw the distinction. They are doing the right thing in deserting the ranks of an army that is mired in dishonor, ignominy, crime, and genocide. We want to tell them that if any of them decide to fight alongside us, we will welcome them in our ranks.

During these days there has also been another aggression against the Salvadoran people and international public opinion. There has been an attempt to deprive public opinion of the truth. The government established an obligatory network, linking the radio and communications media in network. It established censorship. It only wants its opinion to be known, its twisted and manipulated version of what is happening. It has gagged the press and newsmen. And on top of that the newsmen are being persecuted. There are already some prisoners. Some of the offices of the newsmen and news agencies have been raided. Shots have been fired at vehicles belonging to newsmen. This is only the beginning. This is an aggression against the people and national and international public opinion, which are being deprived of knowing what is happening. Rightfully so, a clamor emerged against this supposedly informative network which was imposed by the government.

We want to be in solidarity with the press and the newsmen, regardless of their ideology. Newsmen in our country have achieved high levels of professionalism. Newsmen have achieved what could be called a dedication to something that is sacred, to their duty as social communicators. We can imagine how they must feel. But in addition to imagining how the newsmen must feel who are prevented from doing their duty and their job, to which they are extremely dedicated, we also realize how the Salvadoran people suffer because of the lack of contact with truthful information. The large majority of our people, who have gotten used to this over the past few years, cannot be deceived by the information network set up by the government.

If we had always lived under a system in which journalists always played along with the regime and in which journalists always hid the truth from the people—and we must say that this is the case in some countries, but not the case in ours—perhaps if that had been the case, the people would have been used to such a situation and they would have never noticed any change. Change, however, is perfectly clear to the people now. Anger is too strong now, because we are facing a true aggression. The people's right to know the truth is being attacked.

All this, in other words, the great efficiency of our combative forces, the incorporation of large sectors of the population into our struggle along with our combative forces, the aggression and the genocide against the Salvadoran people, and the lack of freedom of expression are part of the crisis which the regime, the government, and the military dictatorship are experiencing in our country.

Despite the suffering that this crisis entails, the Salvadoran people and all our chiefs and fighters in the terrain have realized that our sacrifices are not in vain and that these sacrifices are made for a cause for which the Salvadoran people have been struggling for so many years.

The FMLN General Command wants to briefly tell the entire Salvadoran people, our fighters, and international public opinion that we are progressing and that the goals of liberation, democracy, just peace, and social justice will be attained. The Salvadoran people are making a supreme effort in their history.

The FMLN, with the support of the Salvadoran people, has pledged everything it has accumulated, all its ability, determination, and firmness.

[Reporter] Considering the situation you have described, my next question is: Where is the country heading?

[Shafik] [passage indistinct] On behalf of the FMLN Command, I want to appeal to all the national forces of our country—the political parties, labor organizations in the cities and the countryside—all the social forces [words indistinct]. I repeat: The people and many soldiers are justly angry over what their commanders are forcing them to do and [words indistinc] we urge them to contribute to solving the national crisis.

This is the time to search for a national consensus to give substance to what will be the rules of the game in El Salvador. The FMLN does not believe at all that this is the exclusive task of this organization. The FMLN does not believe that it must impose its ideas on the nation. The FMLN makes contributions in the form of efforts and programs.

We have said at the dialogue [words indistinct] to rescue national sovereignty [words indistinct] for a just and lasting peace.

This is the moment for all [words indistinct]. There are already reports about [words indistinct] from the church. We welcome all this, and we tell them: You are acting correctly. This is the moment to speak up, the moment [words indistinct] the majority of the nation that can unite Salvadorans to resolve the national crisis.

We insist on finding a political solution. We see this meeting as a political solution. We believe that as the situation evolves, the encounter with [words indistinct] will come more quickly.

I want to appeal to the social and political forces to contribute to finding a solution to the national crisis.

On behalf of the General Command I want to say that [words indistinct] is that to find a solution to the national crisis it is necessary to get rid of the military dictatorship that has governed the country for the past 60 years, a dictatorship that was born out of bloodshed and that has stayed in power for 6 decades because of repression, because of [1-minute break in reception].

It has been shown that this dictatorship cannot survive unless it continues to murder people. That fact is more evident now than ever. Its decision to bomb cities and the heavily populated neighborhoods of San Salvador and other main cities has exposed the nature of this dictatorship.

If we Salvadorans hope for a future with progress, peace, democracy, development, and social justice, we must also realize that the survival of this military dictatorship is incompatible with that hope.

Our goal is not to replace this military dictatorship with a regime that will also maintain a huge army. We are convinced that a small country such as ours must channel its resources to development, must give its people a better life, and must ensure that the great creativity and work capability of the Salvadoran people contribute to their country's development, that the large working majorities, which also have great creativity and capabilities, will contribute their intellectual abilities, and that businessmen, who are so dynamic and dedicated to development, will also contribute. Dictatorship is incompatible with all this.

Many people who could not bear the dictatorship have left our country. No investments can be made in the country's economy if there is no stable and lasting peace. The FMLN is willing to conciliate its own ideas with those of all other social, political, and religious segments of the population, with all ideologies and social classes in our country.

[Reporter] A final question, Commander Shafik Handal. How is the world seeing our dear El Salvador? What is the international reaction to all this struggle and this drama our country is currently enduring?

[Shafik] El Salvador is at this time in the headlines of all the most important newspapers and magazines in the world, on the screens of the most influential television channels with the greatest audiences in the world, in all countries, and on all continents. The whole world is closely following events taking place in our country. I would say the world is monitoring further developments that will take place in El Salvador. International organizations have begun to take action. The OAS General Assembly has been meeting in the past few days, and has issued a resolution. The resolution urges reaching an agreement to find a political solution to the national crisis. We have observed that many governments have begun adopting positions and issuing opinions. In this regard, there have been various reactions.

I would like to express, with total honesty, that the statements by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias have surprised us. He has made biased statements. We have great respect for President Arias, and we maintain this attitude. We believe he has made, and can continue making, significant contributions to the peace efforts in Central America. However, we believe that someone playing such an important role and who is trusted by so many people had the duty to remain without bias and with equanimity. It seems President Arias has lost his equanimity.

With all due respect and honesty, we want to tell President Arias that we do not want to see any further of his efforts to build a true and long-lasting peace in El Salvador being undermined. We would like to see a more unbiased, unprejudiced, and calm President Arias so that he can make further contributions to the peace efforts. We would like to see a President Arias who is more sensitive to the Salvadoran people's tragedy. We would like to listen to his opinion on how to halt the bombings and the genocide. We are not going to ask President Arias to abstain from criticizing us. However, we would like to see him make contributions to peace.

The U.S. Government has just delivered a new package of military aid, or rather just approved new military aid, for the Salvadoran Army and Government. Current events show something that many have tried to conceal through propaganda: The U.S. Government is not helping a democratic government or an armed force respectful of human rights, nor is it supporting the cause of democracy. It is supporting assassins; it is supporting genocide in El Salvador.

President George Bush said at the United Nations General Assembly that we are building in this hemisphere, on

this continent, the first democratic continent. This means that El Salvador will have to change its behavior.

We believe that there are many talented people in the United States. There are many people who are really committed to democracy. We hope that all those people can exert some pressure so that their government and their country adopt a constructive stance regarding El Salvador and Central America in general.

We do not want to become involved in a polemic or a confrontation with the United States. We believe that the United States is facing an historic challenge, which has not been assumed up to now. The courage to assume that challenge has not been present.

The United States is facing the challenge of understanding revolutions. First, they have to face the revolutions on this continent, which have deep roots in the history of our continent. These revolutions have their roots in the problems of social justice, politics, and repression experienced by our countries. They have their roots in the tremendous repression and impoverishment imposed by the United States on our countries. History follows its own path, and there comes a time when the people decide to follow their own destiny. [Words indistinct] this is a positive thing. [words indistinct] it is an action in favor of the people themselves.

If the United States finds the way to understand these revolutions and processes, and if they can understand the democratic desires of the Latin American peoples, they will surely be able to establish more stable relationships of cooperation and sincere friendship instead of the tense relations that have adversely affected not only the needy but the Latin American governments as well.

We would like to think that the events in our country can contribute to change the way of thinking in the United States, and we hope that these events are an opportunity to make a historic adjustment, which the United States has yet to make.

To talk about the international situation even further, we are convinced that the calls made against genocide in our country will increase. Protests and condemnations of genocide are heard now on various continents. The international media, of all political ideologies, have begun to point out the genocide and the brutal nature of the bombings.

This is a way of protesting. It is the first protest. Along with this protest, we have listened to voices everywhere. More voices will be heard. This criminal dictatorship and this fascist party led by Mr Cristiani will be the target of world condemnation.

The FMLN General Command calls on all peoples and all governments of the world to take positions, to stop the genocide in El Salvador, and to contribute in this way to creating the conditions for a political solution.

[Reporter] Would you like to send a message to the Salvadoran people?

[Shafik] Our message is that we have confidence that the Salvadoran people will win. It is a message of absolute faith in the future of our fatherland and in the democratic future of our fatherland. It is, above all, a message of great confidence that the Salvadoran people will win.

FMLN Commander Villalobos on Fighting

PA1511204489 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 1903 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Interview with Commander Joaquin Villalobos, member of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, by unidentified reporter on 14 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Comrade Commander Joaquin Villalobos: What is the evaluation of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] General Command after our forces carried out actions on 11, 12, 13 November and today, 14 November?

[Villalobos] In the first place, and as the General Command announced today in the manifesto to the nation, we could say that the military actions in this offensive are written in one of the most glorious and important pages in the history of the people's war in our country. What our fighters have done is truly impressive. We must add something: Inasmuch as the preparation of this offensive was such a great movement as to the number of forces, and it was such an extensive people's plot, it was to be expected that a certain amount of information would be leaked. Thus, some of our movements would be detected.

This made its way to the Army, and it was able to set up a defensive operation at some vital points, including practically the goals we were planning to reach. In addition, the Army was totally under alert. Under those conditions—which are an important element to bear in mind—our forces not only succeeded in carrying out all of the actions, but also managed to penetrate an alerted enemy. Furthermore, we fulfilled all of the goals we had set for ourselves, and then some.

Given the conditions under which the initial plan was prepared, we must say that penetration alone can be considered a military victory. Actually, we have fulfilled our goals and more, because during the initial 14-15 hours of combat, we carried out important annihilations during completely improvised actions against an enemy whose location was uncertain. In other words, it was combat by encounters in which we improvised the maneuvers on site to annihiliate the enemy, to dislodge him from his positions. We recovered materiel from him, and we even took some prisoners.

Therefore, from the military point of view, we must say that the initial phase was a success. This consisted of first approaching the enemy, penetrating; then later resistance and counterattacks, followed by our forces settling in the terrain and remaining for a long time.

[Reporter] Comrade commander, what can you say about the Army's action?

[Villalobos] As I told you in the beginning, one must bear in mind the efforts it made to defeat this plan even before it was carried out. Much was done to prevent the attack by our forces, but the enemy was defeated. Later, the enemy decreed a state of alert in the face of our possible attacks. It was defeated, not only becuase it did not impede our forces from entering the cities in depth, but it also sustained crushing military defeats in the initial hours of combat, despite the fact it was in a state of alert.

Then large movements were carried out with the most qualified units in order to try to dislodge our forces. It was during these dislodging operations that it began to sustain considerable setbacks. The Army then began to suffer huge casualties at this point. We can say, and this is very important, that the initial phase of this plan has been a resounding victory for our forces, which managed to carry out a coherent plan.

The Army then began to seek a goal that is much more evident now. I would say that now the Army has gone beyond the phase of praying and begging that—although not because of its combat action, or its military action—our forces will withdraw from the terrain, but rather hopes that we will automatically decide to do this.

Nevertheless, this will not occur because we made a strategic decision to stay on the terrain and our forces are complying with this decision.

This explains the statements by several officers who have said: In such and such a number of hours we are going to resolve the situation at this location. Or: We are going to do this or that at any moment now. It is not a matter of having the power to force our fighters out; they are hoping that our forces will simply withdraw from the terrain at a given time.

This morning the national network was trying to confuse matters; it was attempting to make the people believe that at any minute our forces would be withdrawing.

[Announcer] We are carrying an interview with Commander Joaquin Villalobos, a member of the General Command of the FMLN. Commander Villalobos is giving his opinion on the current situation and on the development of our offensive. Let us continue to listen to this interview with Commander Joaquin Villalobos.

This is Radio Venceremos and Radio Farabundo Marti transmitting on four shortwave frequencies in the second band and on two FM frequencies. We now go back to the interview with Commander Joaquin Villalobos.

[Villalobos] Well, that would be its main purpose. Some U.S. officials have already gone on the record saying: This will soon be over, or: This is not going to last. This is due to what one could call a false coolness in at least some of the members of the administration. However, the Army officers and non-commissioned officers have not been as cool. On the contrary, they have been very nervous and tense, because they have never before been subjected to such a large amount of strategic pressure.

On the other hand, our forces are already settling in. With all of our forces' experience and creative ability to maintain themselves in the terrain for a very long time, for an indefinite period of time, and to maintain themselves in the territories that we have conquered, using diverse tactics that already are being implemented. Consequently, in the same manner in which we defeated all of their attempts to halt us and to try to keep us from penetrating, as well as their counterattacks to try to rapidly dislodge us, we have already started to defeat this foolish attempt to try to get us to abandon terrain because of a weakening of the material base. I would like to comment a bit further on this point, because what our fighters are doing is truly admirable. Their capacity to adapt and to adapt so readily is (?a credit to) our fighters. One has to stop and ponder a bit on how the events have developed, on how our fighters have been waging combat using full force at specific times, and how they have been waging combat in a very military fashion. However, gradually, to the extent in which they have been consolidating their positions, creating a favorable political situation or atmosphere, and gaining greater command of the terrain, our forces have gone on, in strictly military terms, to carry out in-depth guerrilla activity.

I would describe this as a repeat of what we did in 1985. After that experience, our units know that one can continue fighting for a very long time by exercising careful control of our logistics. Our units have begun an intense operation in all the cities. However, this is now a totally different terrain and totally different circumstances: permanent ambushes, snipers. There is a whole new range of tactics, of activities. Our forces are taking action at different points, on the same terrain, without changing terrain. They have begun to bleed the enemy, and the number of casualties they have begun to inflict is admirable. We are not dealing with mines here, but with firing good shots at the right time. We are dealing with dominion over the terrain coupled with the support of the residents so as to carry out speedy and highly effective operations.

All of this has been defeating the enemy's attempt to lead us into a nonmilitary confrontation, and has created an entirely new situation in a different time and place. That is why I was saying that it is worthwhile to compare this situation to the one in 1985. The creativity of our chiefs and fighters in this situation is truly incredible. I can remember that at that time we talked about the guerrilla war of attrition, we talked about in-depth destabilization, and we also talked about the need for the participation of the masses. Our fighters are currently implementing these three concepts—and in a creative manner, mind you—in a time and place that are entirely different: the most important urban areas in our country. And they continue to maintain mass force as well as considerable control of territory, which is what gives the offensive its strength. In this way we can remain in

position for as long as is needed until we can get the Army to (?collaborate), the ARENA government to leave, the Tandona out of there, and achieve peace.

I am going to take a little more time to explain the new destabilization modes our forces are employing. It is very important to note how the forces began sabotaging various places within the urban areas and how this began to cause disorder and confusion in the normal activity of the urban centers. This began creating a political and military scenario that proves the Army's total lack of control. Of course, as we said previously, this added to actions by the active forces designed to wear down the other side, that is the other important part, which began drafting a very chaotic scenario after a great number of operations. Our forces also began intense sabotage actions that resulted in destabilization becoming more common. The other very important part that is also similar to the 1985 scenario and events has been the incorporation of the masses, except that now it has been in a much shorter time period, not like the 3 years between 1985 and 1988. Also, the country's theater of operations is not as large because the areas are more confined, and we have a shorter period of time to try to rid ourselves of this government, ARENA, and the Tandona.

We have already seen how our forces began to help with the food shortage, the problems of security, and bombings. Our forces began to organize the people to protect themselves from the bombings and from the murder of civilians by the Armed Forces. Our forces also began organizing the population to face the problem of food shortage, to raid food stores and distribute the food among the population, and to prepare defense trenches and fortifications. This began an integration process between our forces and the people. Just as our current communique says, our forces began to organize the people's general insurrection, making them take part not only in direct military combat, which is important, but also in direct methods of support, such as in fortification work, as well as in ways for the people to become involved in self-defense and deal with problems of serving the need of the masses. This included organizing the terrain, organizing provisions, coordinating all necessary matters, including problems dealing with [word indistinct], the civilian population's demands, the exercise of pressure on the enemy so that it respects the civilian population, and the organization of all those tasks.

All that organization process has led to a situation in which the Army is not only facing our military forces, but also an organized people. This situation reminds me of our slogan: Let us turn our entire country into an ocean of guerrillas and organized people. We are now working on a slightly different field. We are now trying to organize the people inside the cities. Our guerrillas are beginning to organize themselves in the cities. Thus, the enemy is beginning to face a situation that includes massive forces, firing lines, and military operations, intensive guerrilla operations throughout the country, and a strong destabilizing process that has created a state of disorder proving that the enemy has no control over the situation.

In addition, the enemy is facing the increasing participation of the masses in the combative and support operations, in the people's self-defense operations, and in their operations to solve the communities' problems. All this is creating a scenario that allows a long-term prolongation of the FMLN presence in the field—to the point that we will see who has time on his side in this theater of operations and at this moment [words indistinct]. At this point in time each one of us, [words indistinct] and the people in general wonder [words indistinct] that will help us defeat the Tandona and the ARENA government.

FMLN's Nidia Diaz Interviewed on Struggle

PA1611001889 (Clandestine) Cadena Revolucionaria Nacional in Spanish to El Salvador 2302 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Report on interview with Nidia Diaz, Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front commander, by unidentified reporters; date and place not given—Diaz remarks recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] The first question to Commander Diaz concerned the bombings by the Salvadoran Air Force in San Salvador, San Miguel, and other cities of the country.

[Diaz] Cristiani's regime is engaged in genocide against the Salvadoran people. That is what the millions of dollars provided all these years by the U.S. administrations have served for. Now the Bush administration continues that aid. There have been indiscriminate bombings in San Salvador, Soyapango, [names indistinct], Zacamil, [names indistinct] and also in San Miguel City, especially in neighborhoods on the outskirts. The number of civilian casualties runs in the hundreds. This proves that in these last 10 years of struggle the regime also regarded the civilian population as its chief objective, because it could not fight, defeat, or weaken the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN].

[Reporter] Commander Diaz now answered the following question: What is the objective of the indiscriminate bombings on the civilian population? This is her reply to Radio Venceremos and Radio Farabundo Marti:

[Diaz] To keep the people from participating in the struggle for democracy and in a lasting and just peace. Our people want peace with justice and are participating in the struggle in various ways. Broad sectors of workers, peasants, students, and teachers have organized themselves all these years for this struggle. In the face of an FMLN offensive, there is broad participation by the people. They are helping in diverse ways. The goal is to prevent an uprising by our people and to keep them from accompanying us in the struggle so that the FMLN is left

alone and weakened. The government's chief objective has always been to defeat us. Because of the people's great participation—we have been fighting for almost 100 hours—we have not been removed from our positions. We continue advancing, and this is chiefly made possible by the support from the people.

The chief goal...[changes thought] As the United States planned in the struggle against the Vietnamese people, and as Anastasio Somoza planned it in Nicaragua, now the United States, in collusion with the fascist military dictatorship, is trying to prevent the people's participation and to keep the people from supporting us. But they will not achieve this goal. Their goal is to defeat us every hour and every moment.

[Reporter] What do you have to say about how the people are reacting to the bombings?

[Diaz] They are getting organized in different ways against the bombing and genocide. This situation does not just exist in the neighborhoods and areas where the fighting is taking place in the capital or in the most important cities of the interior, but also within the city itself. Also, the workers are organizing to counter the genocide, not only by denouncing it, but also by taking part in diverse ways. This situation is causing our people to defend themselves. There is general fighting in all sectors. The people have increased their level of participation and awareness. With each passing moment, the people are becoming more politically aware and are increasing their level of participation. Their awareness has led them to become more responsive in taking up weapons. This is something that is gaining momentum as the fighting develops along with the genocide being carried out by Cristiani, above all.

[Reporter] What is the reaction at the international level?

[Diaz] We are denouncing this genocidal situation at all the international forums, including the OAS and the United Nations. There are governments that have presented draft resolutions at the OAS to resolve or to issue a mandate to the Cristiani government to cease the air and artillery bombings of the Salvadoran population. Also, several governments and political forces are making similar efforts. The social forces have expressed great solidarity in all the countries. Committees are being organized to collect food and medicine and to try to reach El Salvador to express support for our people, who have set out on the path to favor democracy and peace in El Salvador.

[Reporter] Commander Nidia Diaz responds to the last question, which is her appraisal of and perspective on the military situation. This is Commander Nidia Diaz' response. This was her last answer.

[Diaz] During almost 100 hours of fighting, the balance of political and military forces has become quite favorable. We have not retreated in our advance of controlled territories thus far. We are organizing the people's power in all the zones that were decreed liberated zones by the General Command. We do not have any type of problem in the sense that we are running low on ammunition or anything to that effect. That is because we prepared in every way to be able to resist and advance to define this conflict. The appraisal that we made was quite complete. Undoubtedly the people's growing participation is helping us to consolidate the territories that we control. The people's participation is also helping us to achieve the objective of moving deeper inside the cities and consolidating our power to be able to establish better conditions for a total change in the balance of forces to favor us and the people. The morale of our fighters is high, precisely because of the people's support. They have been able to advance and consolidate their actions. All of our fighters have the political will and determination to defend the positions they have conquered. In this way they are able to create a framework of favorable conditions. Also, the enemy's morale is increasingly lower. This has been complicated by the contradictions that have occurred. The counterattack they planned for yesterday now has been placed in a difficult and militarily disadvantageous position. The plan has failed and this has had great repercussions on their morale. We think it is only a matter of hours, possibly days, before the Army collapses.

Party Leader on Dialogue, Aronson Visit

PA1111172189 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Interview with Ruben Zamora, secretary general of the Social Christian People's Movement, by unidentified reporter, on 9 November; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Dear listeners, today's interview is with Ruben Zamora, secretary general of the MPSC [Social Christian People's Movement] and a leader of the Democratic Convergence.

Doctor, your party has described the FMLN's [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] withdrawal from the talks or dialogue process as a political mistake; you have even described the move as stupid. As part of the FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] alliance, what can the FDR do to make the FMLN return to the dialogue?

[Zamora] I believe the FDR can make a contribution. In this case it can tell the FMLN what specific political mistake it believes the FMLN has made by suspending the talks. Second, a new date must be established; the FDR has suggested holding the talks in Caracas on 27 November. Third, the FDR can also join the other opposition parties and forces seeking dialogue and peace, to call for the resumption of the dialogue process.

[Reporter] During the visit by the U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, he said there is a violent rightwing and a violent leftwing. We know when the violent left acts when it claims responsibility for its actions. How does a violent rightwing operate?

[Zamora] This is the position eternally adopted by the Americans to justify and excuse themselves from everything. We must remember that throughout the eighties, in the midst of the innumerable murders perpetrated by the death squads, the Americans always spoke of a violent leftwing and a violent rightwing, as if they have no responsibility in the situation the country is experiencing. The Americans are the leading financial backers of the war; they are the Army's leading trainers; they are the ones who—in short—provide the economic, political, and military framework that has been implemented in the country over the past 10 years.

To this effect the Americans always talk about a leftwing, and everyone knows they are refering to the FMLN, and about a rightwing which—as you say—they never identify. However, one day Mr Bush came and spoke with the high command and gave them a list of 22 ranking Army officers whom he wanted out of the Army because they were extreme rightists linked to the Death Squads.

[Reporter] When you met with Mr Aronson, did you bring up the human rights violations, and if so what was his impression when you brought up the issue?

[Zamora] I broached the issue, and not only I but all the forces present at the meeting coincided in pointing out our concern over the serious deterioration of human rights in El Salvador. Mr Aronson said that the U.S. Government is also worried over this deterioration and that his visit to El Salvador was precisely to express this concern and to what can be done to prevent the continued deterioration of human rights.

[Reporter] With regard to the murders in Sonsonate, Military Detachment No. 6 has denied that members of the MPSC were involved. They say those killed were common criminals. How is this?

[Zamora] The situation is more serious than I thought on 7 November, when I made my first statements. As far as I know—and this is much more certain—there are nine bodies, two of which belong to members of our party. One of them is Cecilio Rivera Rodriguez, who was our organizer in Sonsonate Department, and the other is a youngster, Apolinario Miranda, who was a supporter of the MPSC youth movement. These people were taken from their homes. However, Military Detachment No. 6 now wants to cover up these political assassinations by saying it was a clash with a group of thieves.

As I have said, the MPSC rule is that when there is no proof or clear evidence, the party blames no one. However, when there is evidence, the party is the first to disclose it. In this case, I feel that I have the moral strength and enough evidence to directly accuse the Salvadoran Army's Military Detachment No. 6 of murdering two members of the MPSC.

Group Criticizes Visit

PA0911151989 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Report by Maria de los Angeles Tenorio]

[Text] The Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero Federation of Committees of Mothers and Relatives, FECMAFAM, has criticized the visit to our country by Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. The group said that by reiterating U.S. Government support for the Salvadoran Government the continuation of our country's military struggle is encouraged. However, the group noted that Aronson's presence also serves to reveal a deterioration in the image of the Alfredo Cristiani government because of the recent upsurge in violence.

[Beging unidentified speaker recording] What does yesterday's visit by this U.S. citizen mean? It means that U.S. President George Bush is concerned that the image of the person to whom he has provided all his aid to continue murdering Salvadorans is in danger. Cristiani has been condemned abroad for his repressive actions. [end recording]

FECMAFAM also rejected the creation of a commission to investigate the FENASTRAS [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation], as proposed by President Cristiani. The group feels investigations of crimes have never been fully conducted, and the guilty have never been tried.

FMLN's Shafik on Visit

PA1011224589 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0200 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Report on statements by Commander Jorge Shafik Handal, member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front General Command; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Handal] "What does this tell us? What message does this convey? It tells us that these organizations, the so-called support organizations—the Coprefa [Armed Forces Press Committee] calls them fronts—are components of the enemy side in the war. "When they sit down to talk to the main representatives of the enemy, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], and when they negotiate issues like the end to hostilities, the government immediately make demands and all these political, ideological, psychological, etcetera, etcetera, actions stop. The message this conveys is that as far as the government is concerned, all those organizations are part of the enemy side in the war. What happened later was the creation of many such fronts. The repression has been going on for quite some time and had increased. However, the government had never presented an idea like this one. Once it did, everything became very clear. All the past actions are part of the

government's and the army's war actions against all these expressions and demonstrations by the Salvadoran people.

"The FENASTRAS [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] massacre was part of this plan. The killing of 3 members of the MPSC [Social Christian People's Movement] in Sonsonate carried out by the 6th Military Detachment in front of witnesses—they left messages on the bodies stating that they were traitors to the homeland—was carried out with the clear intention of sending another message. The message is: Not only in theory do we consider you components of the enemy side. You are the enemy, and that is why we are killing you."

Regarding the visit to El Salvador of Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, Commander Jorge Shafik Handal said:

[Handal] "The heads of the Armed Forces and military units who carried out these crimes remain in office. Those who gave the orders remain in office. Then how can an investigation be carried out? A chain of command must be followed in the military. If a subordinate is going to be interrogated, one must first ask permission from his superior, and they are the superiors. Besides, no one knows who the subordinates who participated are. That information must come from the Army. That is why we have said that the least they can do before they begin investigating this incident is remove Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce. That would be the right thing to do. I would even add that there are a few others who should be removed.

"If we were living in a country with a democratic political system and with labor unions, that would be common practice. It would not even be necessary to bring this up at a public debate. The first thing the president should have done as commander in chief of the Armed Forces—he is involved in these crimes because he is commander in chief of the Armed Forces—is remove them and not say that he was not consulted on this matter. He claims he knew nothing about this, but we have our own sources of information, and we know that he knew. However, if he wants us to believe him when he says that he did not know, then the first thing he should do is what any man with any self-respect would do: Ask for an investigation. However, he is hindering the investigation, which is what is always done when something like this happens. When things like this happen, a few—those who want to see matters clarified—resign, while others are removed."

We are hearing statements by Commander Jorge Shafik Handal, who is talking about Col Ponce and Cristiani's responsibility in the terrorist attack on FENASTRAS. This incident prompted a visit to our country by U.S. official Bernard Aronson. Let us hear what Commander Handal has to say about the U.S. official's visit.

[Handal] "Of course, the United States does not want to appear as if it were withdrawing support from President Cristiani. We were just saying that Aronson had arrived, and he looked worried. The nice-looking glass house they built has rapidly begun to fall apart. Aronson apparently came to see how he could patch things up. We recall a similar high-level visit back around 1984, if my memory serves me right, when the current U.S. President arrived. At that time he was vice president under the Bush administration, no, the Reagan administration, and came to see how to improve the supposedly centrist government and how to put an end to the death squads. He took a list back with him...[changes thought] Let us take a look at how they operate. When they take any action they are very clear and direct. They had a political interest in putting all this together, so Bush took back with him a list of (?15) military members so they could be fired."

Colonel Finds Union Position 'Suspicious'

PA1111190989 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] Deputy Public Security Minister Colonel Inocente Orlando Montano has characterized the decision of the members of the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation [FENASTRAS] to prevent investigations of the attack on their headquarters as suspicious. Col Montano, who is responsible for the country's three security corps, has strongly condemned FENASTRAS labor union leaders for refusing to allow the authorities to carry out investigations in the labor union headquarters, where a powerful bomb exploded killing 10 persons.

Col Montano said that he finds this attitude suspicious. Thus, he has asked common courts to issue a court order to permit the investigations.

[Begin Montano recording] I believe that someone inside the building was handling the bomb. The fact that they have refused to let suitable authorities carry out the necessary investigations makes clear that they have something to hide therefore an investigation does not suit them.

In raids we have carried out in the FENASTRAS headquarters in the past, we have found explosive materiel on several occasions. [end recording]

Colonel Montano explained that evidence will not be what it was right after the attack because days have gone by and labor union people have cleared the rubbish. In this way they have foiled investigations.

[Begin Montano recording] We have not been able to carry out any investigation with experts inside the building because they have obstructed them. Why? It is obvious. I will dare say that the bomb exploded inside, that they were handling it. The evidence is being lost; the evidence that could have helped us find the truth is disappearing.

If there was criminal intent inside their organization, by this time much evidence that could have existed has been lost. [end recording]

Col Montano characterized President Alfredo Cristiani's decision to create a commission to investigate the case as necessary and responsible. He discarded the idea that the attack on the labor union headquarters could have come from any Army sector.

UNTS To Seek Suspension of Aid to Government

PA1011024589 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] The National Unity of Salvadoran Workers [UNTS] will send a document signed by political and union leaders to the European Community and the U.S. Congress requesting that political and military aid for Alfredo Cristiani's government be suspended.

In a news conference on 5 November, the UNTS leaders said that they will send copies of the document to various organizations throughout the world on 11 November so that political and economic support for Cristiani would be suspended. According to the UNTS, the Salvadoran Government uses the U.S. and European aid to increase their war effort. The leaders agreed with FENASTRAS' [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] decision not to participate in the investigation commission proposed by the government to determine who was responsible for the dynamite attack on the FENASTRAS' headquarters.

The UNTS and FENASTRAS both said that the investigation can become politicized and would not help the Salvadoran people in any way, but would provide a better image for Cristiani.

Army Reports Bombs Defused in San Salvador

PA1211064089 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0548 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Report by unidentified spokesman of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff—live or recorded]

[Text] Good evening Salvadoran people. We want to inform you that a car bomb has been defused in Bernal Avenue. A bomb which had been placed by terrorists in the Montebon neighborhood was also defused. Medicines were also found in the Montebon area.

The Mejicanos sector is already under control. There are only small clashes in the Zacamil area.

We would also like to stress our government's determination to achieve peace for the Salvadoran people. We know that this ridiculous action by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has one objective which is intensifying terror, pain, and death among the Salvadoran people. However, our government and our glorious Armed Forces will continue struggling to achieve the peace our people want.

Opposition Leader Ungo on 'State Terrorism'

PA1211142689 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0055 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] We are experiencing very intense, dramatic, and tragic times with an increase in violence that is being promoted by a spiral of actions and reactions, Dr Guillermo Ungo, leader of the Democratic Convergence, has said.

The U.S. Government itself, the State Department, and the U.S. ambassador have made irresponsible and completely fanatical statements, Ungo added.

The killing of thousands of people has one name: state terrorism. There are people who physically carry out those operations, and the government allows it to happen and promotes it, Dr Ungo said.

Guillermo Ungo said the Salvadoran Government is inefficient, irresponsible and not serious. It knows who is responsible but it does not want to get burned. The president may have good intentions, but he makes promises he cannot keep, Democratic Convergence leader Guillermo Ungo said.

He added that the real power in the country, the high command of the Armed Forces, manipulates the president. Everyone knows this. The Armed Forces are constantly giving their opinions on political issues over the media—in a climate of persecution. They are constantly blaming FENASTRAS [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] of being an FMLN front. Then we have the consequences: the murdered people.

Guillermo Ungo said that now, more than ever, we must continue with the talks. In this regard, we have pointed out the need for the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] to reconsider its decision [to suspend the talks] because we believe it is an unfortunate and incorrect decision leading us to play into the hands of those who do not want a dialogue so that there are no negotiations and peace.

Ungo said it is time for [words indistinct] twist the arm of the FMLN so they agree to travel to Caracas, otherwise the date should be postponed. The talks must continue in Caracas and President Alfredo Cristiani should bring a serious agenda. It is necessary to purge the Armed Forces, to democratize the country, and to find a solution to the human rights problem.

Junior Officers Letter on Armed Forces Corruption

PA1111195889 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1822 GMT 11 Nov 89

["Text" of letter received by radio station, entitled "Manifesto to the Junior Officers]

[Text] Companeros officers: We, your comrades in arms, hereby express our rejection of the chaos and corruption that is artificially being created within our heroic Armed Forces because of some bad members of our beloved institution. The situation we denounce and reject as real

men of uniform is reaching unsuspected and dangerous levels, even for the institution itself. Should this continue, the institution could become an instrument for unscrupulous groups only seeking their own well-being not caring if they harm the junior officers. We directly accuse the high command, the commanders of the main garrisons throughout the country, and the directors of the security corps of taking advantage of their rank and office to make money illegally by various means. We have proof of this because we have even been used for these purposes. They are directly involved with all the contraband entering the country and obtain large profits from this. We also know that they are quickly getting rich by providing security for a good number of businessmen who are paying large sums of money. Many of you, as members of the Armed Forces, know about this and know that we are telling the truth, because at one time or another you have also been used for these purposes. We also accuse them of being most interested in not ending the war because they benefit from it.

In light of this situation, we call on all our comrades in uniform to adopt a position of defense and rescue of our glorious and always victorious Armed Forces. We must not allow a group of immoral and treacherous opportunists to continue tarnishing our institution. The Army will live as long as the Republic lives.
Long live El Salvador.
Long live the Armed Forces.
Communique issued by the Junior Officers Command
San Salvador, 10 November 1989.

Parties Urge FMLN To Continue Dialogue

PA1011193989 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the Democratic Convergence [CD] today urged the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] to go to the Caracas dialogue to ask the government to outline clearly the authority and limitations that the commission that will investigate the attack on the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation [FENASTRAS] will have.

At separate news conferences on 7 November, the CD and the PDC urged the FMLN to reconsider its decision to suspend the dialogue process because it is necessary to secure the peace the Salvadoran people want.

[CD leader Guillermo Ungo] "We are publicly asking the FMLN to reconsider its decision. From a realistic point of view, we believe it is appropriate, possible, and important for the meeting to take place. We have asked the two sides to agree to meet on 27 and 28 November.

[Unidentified speaker] "As a party, we believe that the FMLN has the moral responsibility to maintain the dialogue with the government."

The PDC and CD agreed that President Cristiani must outline clearly the authority and powers that the commission he wants to create to investigate the FENASTRAS case will have.

[Unidentified speaker] "The authority, powers, and, especially, the autonomy that the investigating commission will have must be established. The commission must be completely autonomous in order to pursue the investigations thoroughly."

The CD has called for the satisfaction of three conditions by the commission: greater participation in the commission by the political parties; the outlining of the commission's authority and powers; and guarantees that the persons found guilty will be punished.

[CD leader Ruben Zamora] "As long as these three conditions are not met, the parties of the CD alliance can neither support nor participate in that commission."

As the CD sees it, the mere fact that a commission is being created reveals the inability of institutional bodies to clear up the case. The PDC has criticized government officials who have said that the FENASTRAS case is a case of a self-inflicted attack.

[Unidentified speaker] "Government officials have been saying that this was a self-inflicted attack and that, as has happened in other cases involving labor people, the bomb was self-planted. This is a very delicate situation. It is a dangerous statement. Based on the premise that this was a self-inflicted attack, the day will come when the case of Monsignor Romero, which has not been resolved yet, will be resolved by saying that Monsignor Romero was not assassinated but that he killed himself."

President Cristiani's idea to create this commission to investigate the FENASTRAS case has already been praised by the United States, but domestically it is facing difficulties.

Assembly Renews Law To Aid Disabled Rebels

PA1011004489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2311 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Today the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly renewed a temporary amnesty law to allow disabled rebels to leave the country and get medical attention.

The Legislative Assembly—dominated by the rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA)—favored the proposal to renew the amnesty law that will give disabled rebels a 30-day period to request amnesty by 52 votes.

The number of war wounded that have taken refuge in a central San Salvador Catholic church over the past 3 days has increased to 22. The wounded are demanding that the government comply with the Geneva agreements on treatment of the wounded in combat.

The rebels insist that they be allowed to evacuate without any amnesty as stipulated in the Geneva agreements that El Salvador has signed.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) has stated that appoximately 80 additional disabled rebels are on the "war fronts" or in the country's jails.

A spokesman for the disabled said: "We demand compliance with the Geneva agreements, which allow the evacuation of the disabled, the release of those wounded in combat, and others who are in Salvadoran prisons."

On 7 October, 48 disabled rebels travelled to Cuba in a plane chartered by the International Red Cross. Those rebels had occupied the cathedral and the Mexican Embassy headquarters in San Salvador for 1 and ½ months.

On that occasion, the legislative assembly said that the disabled rebels left the country "with an amnesty." This position was rejected by the FMLN who said that the Mexican Government gave political asylum to the disabled.

Foreign Minister Visits Chile, Signs Declaration

PA1111042589 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 6 Nov 89 p 3

[Text] "There may be some links between the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and some Chilean guerrilla groups," Salvadoran Foreign Minister Dr Manuel Pacas Castro said in Santiago de Chile. During his official visit to Chile, the Salvadoran minister met with President Augusto Pinochet and other government officials.

Pacas Castro and his Chilean counterpart Hernan Felipe Errazuriz signed a joint declaration expressing "their concern over terrorist actions in Latin America and the foreign support to subversive groups."

The two ministers stated that the "guerrilla" actions hinder democracy and economic development, and basically affect the most needy sectors."

In the document, Chilean Foreign Minister Errazuriz expresses "the support of the Chilean Government for the peace process promoted by President Alfredo Cristiani and for the peace efforts in Central America."

Following the signing of the declaration, Foreign Minister Pacas told newsmen that "guerrilla movements in Latin America are of Castro-communist inspiration." He also criticized the presidents of Cuba and Nicaragua.

"The main instigator is Fidel Castro," he added. "All those groups have a common denominator and adopt their own methods in each country."

Pacas did not rule out the possibility that there may be some links between the FMLN and Chilean guerrillas. "I am not aware of a direct relationship," he clarified. "However, I have not ruled out that possibility because citizens from other countries have arrived in El Salvador to fight."

In conclusion, he added: "We have always said that the Salvadoran guerrillas have had their training centers in Nicaragua."

FMLN Claims 261 Army Casualties in October

PA1111043489 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 Nov 89

[Text] FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] militiamen and urban guerrillas inflicted 261 casualties on the Armed Forces during October. These casualties include seven noncommissioned officers and two officers.

In the same period of time, the FMLN damaged three UH-1H helicopters and a push-pull O-2 lightplane. In addition, five vehicles, all of which were part of military motorcades, were destroyed in two large-scale ambushes.

Also to be noted are actions in the Quezaltepeque area, the wearing out of enemy troops on the San Salvador volcano slopes, in Chalatenango and Cabanas Departments, and other places in the country. We also must mention the daring of our urban guerrillas, who attacked the staff in San Salvador.

Guatemala

Police Defuse Bomb at Salvadoran Embassy

PA1511173689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1641 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 15 Nov (ACAN EFE)— Guatemalan security forces last night defused a bomb planted in front of the Salvadoran Embassy in Guatemala City, the police reported today.

The police also reported that two bombs exploded last night and destroyed two telephone junction boxes in separate locations in the capital. There were no casualties. However, the explosions caused great alarm and prompted several police patrol cars to comb the areas in search of those responsible, the source added.

A squad defused a high-powered bomb that had been planted in front of the Salvadoran Embassy.

No victims at the site of the explosions were reported. The damage to the junction boxes, however, will probably be costly to the state telephone organization.

These attacks are in addition to the one sustained by the headquarters of the opposition rightist National Liberation Movement [MLN] last week. That explosion demolished most of the office.

So far, no group or organization has claimed responsibility for these terrorist attacks.

Deputy Expresses Doubts on Kidnapped Nun's Case

PA1611044089 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 15 Nov 89 p 4

[Text] Deputy Roberto Valle Valdizan, former interior minister, has described Sister Diana Marck Ortiz's account of her kidnapping, which was revealed by the Confederation of Clergymen of Guatemala (CONFREGUA), as surprising and incredible.

Deputy Valle said that he believes that the account is surprising and incredible, because if state security forces had been responsible for the crime, it would never have used a public bus to transport the kidnapped nun from Antigua Guatemala to Mixco.

The security forces, the deputy added, have vehicles at their disposal; therefore, he doubts that, if involved, state security members would have kidnapped the nun in a passenger bus.

The former interior minister also said that he doubts that the nun was transported in a National Police patrol car because patrol cars are under strict radio monitoring from headquarters.

Deputy Valle criticized the attitude of Sister Marck Ortiz for refusing to provide information to facilitate the authorities' investigation of the incident.

He said that the nun is required to provide testimony and details on her kidnapping, adding that the police have information regarding the case and will soon solve it.

* President Cerezo on Relations With Taiwan

90EM0021A Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 20 Sep 89 p 3

[Interview with President Cerezo during his visit to the Republic of China; from the CHINA TIMES, 6 Sep 89; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] The president of the Republic of Guatemala, Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, has made a 6-day visit to the Republic of China. Despite his extremely busy schedule, he very graciously met with the editorial staff of the CHINA TIMES in the Presidential Suite of the Grand Hotel in Taipei, where he stayed during his visit to our country.

[CHINA TIMES] The Republic of China and Guatemala have maintained friendly relations for a long time, but this is the first official visit made by a president of Guatemala to our country. Could you tell us the principal reason for your visit?

[Cerezo] There are a number of fundamental reasons for our visit to the Republic of China. The first is to strengthen relations between the Republic of China and the Republic of Guatemala, both politically and economically. In the second place, we are greatly interested in improving technical assistance and trade, by opening up possibilities for future Chinese investments in the Republic of Guatemala, and by further improving the economic conditions for exports. I would say these are the most important reasons behind this visit. Of course, this is all part of our general policy of strengthening relations with nations which have had a stable democratic development and an economic development enabling them to improve their people's well-being.

[CHINA TIMES] To date, the Republic of Guatemala and the Republic of China have signed a number of agreements on trade relations, along with their subsequent extensions. During your visit you have had working sessions with President Li Teng-hui and government officials of the Republic of China. Have you reached any specific agreements which may be expected to lead to increased economic ties between the two nations?

[Cerezo] We have made some real progress during our meetings with the president of the Republic of China, particularly in some specific areas, first of all, concerning the expansion and consolidation of the technical agreements which we had reached earlier, including the technical assistance agreements for mining research and for increasing agricultural productivity in Guatemala. In the second place, a proposal has been made to fund investments in the development of Guatemala's economic and social infrastructure, especially in areas which have been hard hit by violence in the past, and which at this time require greater social investments. This is part of a policy which we might call one of internal development, aimed fundamentally toward improving living conditions of some economically deprived groups in Guatemala. Through an appropriate credit democratization infrastructure, we are going to try to bring these groups back into the mainstream of the nation's economic life from which they had earlier been isolated. This is in principle a social proposal, but in essence it is going to have special economic significance in the future.

Moreover, there is an area that we might call support for the nation's productivity. In this field we have proposed a new idea, one which has not been customary in the economic relations we have had with the Republic of China in the past. It is support for a basic grains production program in Guatemala to maintain the self-sufficiency in food production which we have been achieving in recent years. This program would focus on medium and small-scale farmers who have begun to play an active role in the nation's economy, particularly with some food products which we are using for Guatemala's nontraditional exports to other countries, including the United States, Mexico, and some European countries. This funding would be used to set up a packaging and shipping system to be used by the peasants who produce these goods, but who are unable to handle packaging and shipping on their own. It would eliminate the middlemen who often stop these earnings from reaching the peasants directly; it would help to improve their economic situation immediately.

On the subject of the Support Fund to aid productivity and economic development in the developing or underdeveloped countries, set up by the Republic of China, it is possible that we may reach an agreement on technical assistance and arranging funding for developing a cellulose plant for paper which we have in Guatemala. The government of Guatemala has already made the initial investment in this plant, which is over US $50 million. This is a large enterprise which will certainly help us to considerably increase our GNP. But at this time we need technical assistance in managing such a large enterprise. We will reach an agreement on technical contracting, plus a little capital for its basic operation. All these proposals have been accepted in principle, but of course we are now getting into details. Before leaving, it is probable that we will have reached some concrete decisions, which we will announce in the joint statement.

[CHINA TIMES] To what extent is it possible to apply the "Taiwan Model" in Guatemala?

[Cerezo] We can not necessarily apply a particular model in another country. That may not be feasible, even though Guatemala has many cultural characteristics which in general terms might be considered similar to the attitudes of the Chinese people. The Guatemalan people are a people with a very old culture, which gives us a particular cultural attitude in facing the world. The people of Guatemala are austere, very hard working, fairly well disciplined, who find it easy to learn new things. But the model used in Taiwan was introduced at a specific time; for example, large markets were then open to a country with great competitive ability and with very little competition. Our situation at this time is not the same. Even the U.S. market, which is very close to us, is growing more closed and placing more restrictions on product imports. So, even with the same ideas, we have to use tactics that are more suitable for the present-day historic reality in Guatemala and for its particular characteristics. But our fundamental ideas are similar; we are going to grow externally in order to earn money so we can invest internally. In essence, the ideas are the same. And there is also another difference; during the first phase in Taiwan, there was great political stability because of the foreign pressures existing on the nation. Guatemala is starting with a democracy that is very open to the outside, so this does create certain specific conditions inside the nation, and these conditions must also be taken into account. The "Taiwan Model" has certainly given us some general basic concepts to follow, major guidelines that will be very useful to us in Guatemala—a combination of a little state planning, establishing common objectives for the entire nation, incentives, redistributing wealth through taxes, through services, and encouraging and strengthening our national private enterprise.

[CHINA TIMES] In the international area, you, along with four other Central American presidents, have played a very important role in bringing peace to that region which has been so torn by violence. The Esquipulas Agreements provided a foundation for that peace, especially the last agreement containing the "Tela Statement" which called for disarming the Nicaraguan Contras. Could you explain to us some of the major problems facing this agreement designed to bring about peace in Central America?

[Cerezo] Basically the peace process started from an affirmation. We can not be an island of democracy, peace, and stability in a region in conflict. If we want to develop in tranquility in the future, we have to see peace in the region, and our governments must have similar systems, or at least systems which are open and democratic so that we will not have military conflicts in the future. The Esquipulas II plan was developed on the basis of this concept. We have proposed a Central American Parliament which would be an institutionalization of the process, an institution to continue with the process. The major problems which we encountered were the mutual distrust between nations; naturally the east-west conflict which has also been manifested in Central America (so detente between Russia and the United States does help the peace process); and the tendency of some Latin American countries like Cuba to continue backing military solutions to political problems in the area. There has been a tendency to favor military solutions, and in the 1960s that led to the creation of guerrilla movements. All this has left a number of results in its aftermath, which created some very serious problems for us. Another obstacle was the lack of belief in some sectors about whether countries like Nicaragua were really committed to seeking peace. Little by little that is being overcome. The last "Tela Agreement" was perhaps one of the most important, since we took specific steps to bring about peace, greater political openness in Nicaragua, the verification of security through the UN, a non-Central American institution which will give us real control of the arms traffic and of logistic support going to irregular groups. I am truly confident that we are going to make better progress after the "Tela Agreements."

[CHINA TIMES] The world seems to be moving toward the formation of large economic blocs with single markets. Guatemala and the Republic of China belong to the Pacific area. How could they work together in the formation of this bloc in the Pacific Basin? And how would Guatemala view the formation of a single Latin American market to work together with large blocs such as the European market and the Pacifc Basin group after they have been formed?

[Cerezo] Through its historic tradition and now through the policy of this government, Guatemala has always been favorable to or sympathetic with the creation of large markets to promote economic development. We proposed this in Central America; we are trying to establish such a market, and of course the market and trade between Guatemala and other countries in the South-South market or the market between the developing countries and underdeveloped countries is one of the proposals we made to South America. We would view very favorably the possibility of expanding a Latin

American market. In this field, of course, the manufacturing and historic experience of the Republic of China, the entire industrial process of replacing imports and improving the competitive quality of products is something that could help us a great deal. Strengthening all these markets is an important thing for us. An agreement providing for greater cooperation between Taiwan and the countries of the area seeking some possibility of this nature would be good for everyone involved. It would also help us to somehow keep on warding off the power of the world's major economic blocs which draw us, not into a military competition, but into an economic competition which we, the smallest countries, always keep on losing. We are forced to do things we don't always want to do, based on the interests of the world's large economic blocs.

[CHINA TIMES] In cultural affairs, until now our cultural exchanges have been based on sports and the arts. How might a university-level exchange of professors and students work?

[Cerezo] A cultural exchange between Guatemala and Taiwan is getting started. One of the innovative and interesting issues which we are discussing with President Li Teng-hui for the joint statement will be promoting cultural and sports exchanges. We are very interested in this. Guatemala knows that a small country which is changing rapidly naturally needs great sports and cultural activities to encourage all sectors of the nation to get involved, and in this, of course, we will have an enormous field for mutual development. In terms of student exchanges, we are naturally very interested in an exchange of experiences by students.

* Deforestation of Peten Department Denounced

90EM0021B Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 Aug 89 p 16

[Text] Over 13 billion cubic meters of wood have been destroyed in the northern department of Peten because of the uncontrolled cutting of trees in that region for a number of years, reported a study by the university leader, Hugo Rene Paz Juarez.

Paz spent several days traveling throughout various parts of Peten "in order to analyze the major causes of the excessive deforestation in the area, which no one has been attempting to stop," he reported.

"The desolate panorama I observed in the Peten region is sad, very sad," he said. "Many stands of trees of all ages have been cut down there to make room for cornfields or for livestock."

He pointed out that the uncontrolled settlement which has been going on in Peten is responsible for about 29 percent of the ruthless destruction of the area's ancient trees.

"Right now," he said, "6 million cubic meters of wood are being destroyed without producing any benefit, apart from exports of lumber that is damaged by disease and by being cut for use as firewood."

"It is essential," he argued, "to conduct a consciousness-raising program with the Peten peasants. Year after year they cut down huge amounts of forest to plant their traditional crops of corn and beans. According to our study, one 'manzana' of land yields 30 quintals of corn. This production can earn the peasant an approximate income of 450 quetzales."

"To earn that income," he said, "a peasant has to cut down and burn over 80 trees, whose value ranges from 100 to 800 quetzales each, but it all depends on the quality of the wood produced. At the present time settlement is responsible for 29 percent of the deforestation taking place in the nation, and this problem is intensified in the isolated department of Peten," he maintained.

He added that agricultural experts agree that the Peten lands are not suitable for agricultural production, given the poor nature and low humus content of the Peten soil.

"These woods should be saved and protected in national parks or forest reserve areas; if they are not, that vast department will become a desert within the next 5 years," Paz Juarez said in closing.

Honduras

Azcona Says AID Policies Help Opposition

PA1511141389 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 14 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] President Jose Azcona Hoyos charged on 13 November that the Agency for International Development (AID) "is indirectly supporting the presidential candidate of the National Party of Honduras [PNH], Leonardo Callejas."

The president argued that AID's refusal to disburse $70 million of financial assistance for this year "is indirect support to the National Party's candidate."

Delving further into AID's support for Callejas, Azcona explained that this is not deliberate support, "but by not disbursing the economic assistance if no agreement is reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), it will undoubtedly help Callejas a little."

However, Azcona said it will not be of any use to AID to continue supporting the PNH indirectly "because the Liberal Party [PLH] has already won the elections."

The president said that during his administration he has demonstrated that he rejects any meddling by international financial organizations in the country's economic policy by refusing to adopt the measures they have recommended.

As an example, Azcona cited Guatemala, where the government devalued the currency last week. In this

regard, he said that "this measure will benefit Guatemalan businessmen and affect the people enormously."

Azcona said that "in Guatemala the dollar was worth 2.70 [quetzals]. It is now worth 4.70 quetzals, and within 15 days will skyrocket to 8 or 10 quetzals. The Guatemalan people will be hurt by abiding with recommendations from financial organizations."

"That is why the IMF recipes will not pass here; not while I am president and even after the elections," Azcona said.

Azcona rejected statements by Callejas that he feels superior to the people, noting that "I am a very humble person. I come from the people's ranks, and it has cost me a great deal to reach my present position."

"It seems to me that what irks Callejas is that I am getting very close to the people, and this will in some way help my party win," he said.

Azcona announced that, beginning today, he will devote himself fully to the PLH campaign and that he will deliver speeches at ceremonies to inaugurate works.

"I was keeping very quiet and trying not to become involved in political affairs, but the PNH candidate is attacking me, so I will talk politics at inaugurations," Azcona stressed.

Azcona Condemns 8 Nov Attack on Local Journalist

PA1511200989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1751 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran President Jose Azcona today condemned last night's attack on journalist Jose Elan Reyes, who was wounded by an unidentified individual. This is the first attack on a newsman in 30 years.

In a communique, Azcona said he was "angry" over the incident, and he confirmed his determination to "maintain freedom of expression and information in Honduras at all costs."

The president said there will be a thorough police investigation of the incident, which led today to many protests by newsmen as well as by social and political circles of the country.

Reyes is in "delicate, but stable condition," recovering from two 9-mm bullet wounds shot at him pointblank by an unindentified person. Spokesmen for the Honduran Social Security Hospital where Reyes was admitted said that fortunately the wounds did not involve vital organs.

The journalist works for Radio America, where he covers the Foreign Ministry, the Nicaraguan Embassy in Tegucigalpa, and the Nicaraguan "contras." The Association of Honduran Journalists, the Honduran Press Association, and the Association of Honduran Correspondents of the Foreign Press today condemned the attack on Jose Elan Reyes, and demanded a thorough investigation by the authorities.

Reyes will remain at least 15 days in the intensive care unit, according to the latest medical bulletin issued at 1000 (1600 GMT).

Reyes' fellow workers said that a few days ago, the journalist told them that he had received two anonymous telephone calls warning him that he was included on a list of persons who were going to be eliminated.

According to one report, Reyes was wounded near his office by an individual who got out of a red car with tinted windows. The newsman had just left his office and was waiting for a taxi to go home. Minutes later, his fellow workers heard Jose Elan saying over the remote radio he carried: "I have been wounded, I am dying."

The Honduran Armed forces announced today they will carry out a thorough investigation to identify Reyes' attackers.

8,500 Salvadoran Refugees To Return Home

PA1511233889 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 9 Nov 89 p 39

[Press communique issued by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Tegucigalpa on 8 November]

[Text] The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Honduras reports to the public that approximately 8,500 refugees of the Colomoncagua camp have announced their desire to return to El Salvador soon.

The Honduran and Salvadoran Governments, with the support of the UNHCR, have accepted the refugees' legitimate aspiration and have adopted the necessary measures for this repatriation, which will be the most important in the history of refugees in Central America.

The operation for the refugees' return to El Salvador will begin in the last days of November. The refugees will be settled in four villages of Meanguera municipality in Morazan Department. The route, which was established in coordination with the two governments, will begin at Colomoncagua, pass through through Las Flores, Perquin, and conclude in Meanguera. It is estimated that the operation will take 4 weeks and will end prior to Christmas.

Since the beginning of this month, a Salvadoran immigration team has been working in Colomoncagua to issue the necessary documents so the refugees can legally reenter their country.

Tegucigalpa, 8 November 1989

Nicaragua

UN Talks Ready To Break Up, Cardinal Returning

PA1511140689 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1215 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] United Nations—The contras have endangered the future of their demobilization talks by rejecting on 14 November a new Nicaraguan Government concession made at the UN meeting.

Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco proposed a cease-fire if the contras withdraw to Honduras no later than 15 December, with the United States supporting CIAV [International Support and Verification Commission] work. Once the CIAV confirms that more than half of the contra forces have been demobilized and that those kidnapped have been set free, Nicaragua would decree a general amnesty for prisoners linked to armed activities.

Observers believe the proposal covered the suggestions presented by the witness, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who has already announced that with or without an agreement he will return today to Managua, disappointed by the contras intransigence. The talks will resume today, but they are on the verge of breaking up despite the flexibility shown by the Nicaraguan Government delegation.

Contras Propose Talks Delay

PA1611051889 Paris AFP in Spanish 0457 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Washington, 15 Nov (AFP)—The peace negotiations between the Nicaraguan Government and the "contras" reached a blind alley tonight when the anti-Sandinist guerrilla delegation proposed suspending them at a time when, according to the government delegation, "an agreement appeared to be at hand."

Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said that a proposal by the "contras" to suspend the negotiations and to continue them in a week in Guatemala "came as a total surprise," because, according to him, the two sides had made "much progress" during today's meeting, which began at 1600 and ended at 2300.

Ortega Speaks to Managua University Students

Demands Halt To Salvadoran Bombing

PA1611024689 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0202 GMT 16 Nov 89

["Excerpt" of speech by President Daniel Ortega to university students in Managua on 15 November—recorded]

[Text] The Salvadoran Army is determined to bomb the Salvadoran people. It is bombing Salvadoran cities and the capital itself. This genocidal and criminal bombing has already resulted in the wounding of thousands and the death of hundreds.

Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas, bishop of San Salvador, today demanded an end to the bombings to spare the lives of Salvadorans, and we have demanded and now demand, in the name of the Nicaraguan, Central American, and world peoples, an end to the bombing of the Salvadoran people. [applause]

We also demand acceptance of a negotiated solution to this conflict promoted for many years by the United States—a conflict they have tried to blame on the Nicaraguan people. Our only sin and crime is that the Salvadorans see the Nicaraguan people as an exemplary people who successfuly fought and defeated Somoza's dictatorship; who have successfully faced and defeated imperialist aggression. That is our sin and... [break in transmission]

Says U.S. Should Copy USSR

PA1611030489 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0231 GMT 16 Nov 89

["Excerpt" of speech by President Daniel Ortega to university students in Managua on 15 November—recorded]

[Text] Now that the USSR is implementing a policy of broad freedom toward countries that have been considered to be under its strategic influence; now that it is allowing each country to do what it wishes to do in Eastern Europe; now that the Berlin Wall has fallen in the GDR, the Yankee government, the United States, must emulate the example of the USSR and allow us Latin Americans living in the area it has considered its strategic security area, to do what we Latin Americans want and not what the Yankees want. We want them to stop intervening in Latin America. [applause]

2,000 Salvadoran Rebels Reported in Nation

PA1511234989 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Nov 89 pp 1, 12

[Text] Approximately 2,000 Salvadorans belonging to the rebel FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] are in Nicaragua, confidential sources have told LA PRENSA, adding that some are with their relatives. The rebel forces stationed in our country are divided into six regional commands and receive their training at the Interior Ministry's Special Troops Schools and at TPU (Pablo Ubeda Troops) schools.

Many rebels appear to lead a normal life, working and mingling with the Nicaraguan people. Some of them work for state entities and institutions, as is the case of four Salvadorans who work for a Sandinist news source. Now that the situation in El Salvador is worsening, the FMLN rebels are gathering together and waiting to be called to a undisclosed location. However, they will wait 15 days until a large number are sent in as reinforcements. These same sources stated the rebels are meeting twice a week to study combat strategies and tactics in Nicaraguan security areas.

The same sources disclosed that the Nicaraguan Government is not sending weapons directly to El Salvador but through a Honduran who sends them on to El Salvador. They said the operations command is in Nicaragua. At present, the Salvadoran guerrillas are armed with Galil, AK-47, and M-16 rifles. These weapons are similar to the ones the Sandinist National Liberation Front used during its uprising; where those weapons ended up is unknown.

Opposition Party Protests TV News Restriction

PA1611015189 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0001 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Mangua, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan Interior Ministry's Media Directorate has kept the National Opposition Union (UNO)—formed by 14 political parties—from broadcasting a political program at a private station. The station is located in Managua and the program was to start today.

According to opposition spokesmen, the Media Directorate "is violating the electoral law, which establishes that the Supreme Electoral Council is the organization that decides on media-related matters during the electoral process."

UNO has not changed its position on the televised political debates and is not attending them, arguing that the government has still not kept its promises to allow parties free access to the media.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega inaugurated a televised political debate on the state television, Channel 6, on 10 November. The program lasts 1 hour and is broadcast on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

The governing Sandinist National Liberation Front and the opposition Nicaraguan Social Christian Party are to participate in today's televised debate. UNO sources have indicated, however, that they will not participate in tonight's debate, either.

The Social Democratic Party Vice President Adolfo Jarquin stated to ACAN-EFE that UNO insists that the government authorize the operation of an independent television channel, as is stipulated in the agreements signed by the Central American presidents in Guatemala in August 1987.

According to the opposition leader, the Sandinists have not even offered the opposition the use of the television station Channel 2, even if this station has a very weak signal and reception only reaches up to 20 km from Managua and no further.

He noted that parties participating in the electoral campaign have only been able to broadcast 10-minute programs once a week through Channel 2 since October of this year.

Jarquin added that UNO needs at least a daily 30-minute program through Channel 6 to broadcast independent newscasts. Channel 6 is one of the most powerful stations in the country.

Ortega Sends Budget Bill to National Assembly

PA1611021789 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0113 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Communique No 36 issued by the Presidential Press and Information Directorate in Managua on 15 November]

[Text] The Presidential Press and Information Directorate reports that in compliance with the constitutional principles established in Article 113, Article 138 Paragraph C, and Article 150 Paragraph 5, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution, today submitted to the National Assembly the general budget for the Republic, regulating the public administration's revenues and spending for 1990.

In a letter addressed to National Assembly President Carlos Nunez Tellez, commander of the revolution, President Ortega says: In compliance with the guidelines of the economic program and considering the progress that has been achieved, the fiscal policy for 1990 seeks to consolidate these achievements and to redouble efforts to correct the remaining fiscal deficiencies. The strong fiscal discipline implemented in 1989 will lead to a reduction in the fiscal deficit to 5 percent of the GNP, which in practice means basically balancing revenues and government spending.

In his letter, the president also notes that changes in the spending structure included in the budget bill aim at reducing the social costs entailed by the intensity of the aggression and the adjustment of the economy. The efforts will be particularly aimed at improving the purchasing power of wages, upgrading the living standard of the Nicaraguan people, and providing basic services.

During the implementation of the budget, the necessary measures to control spending and increase revenues will be taken to ensure that the fiscal deficit remains at the programmed level, as this is consistent with the economic program's objective of controling inflation, achieving reasonable price stability, and recovering the country's productive capabilities.

Ending, the letter adds: The submitted budget bill contains fiscal policy guidelines reflecting the situation in Nicaragua and program goals, activities, and projects, that reflect government efforts to improve living standards and move the country along the path of economic stability and development.

Managua, 15 November 1989. Year of the 10th Anniversary.

Presidential Information and Press Directorate.

Government To Float Dollar Exchange Rate

PA1511162289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Last night the government decided to float the parallel market dollar exchange rate because of the upward trend in the black market rate of exchange.

Planning and Budget Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca announced that the currency exchange houses will carry out their dollar purchase and sale operations based on the local dollar exchange rate. The official admitted there were strong pressures on the government-defined rates because of the upward trend of the black market, which forced the currency exchange houses to float their rates.

Martinez Cuenca said that the dollar exchange rate may rise after it has been freed, but this will drop the parallel market rate. He added that there will no longer be a limit on the amount of dollars that may be sold because the country has already received the first international donations for the adjustment plan, but that foreign exchange will be sold according to price and demand.

Panama

'Open Letter' to USSOUTHCOM Commander

PA1511164589 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 15 Nov 89 pp 12, 27

["Text" of letter to USSOUTHCOM Commander Gen Maxwell Thurman from the National Union of Natural Leaders (UNDINA) regarding his recent military statements; date and place not given]

[Text] Open Letter to Gen Maxwell Thurman

Mr. General:

You command an army of occupation in this country. This post grants you broad powers and prerogatives. In turn this makes you a direct target of the wrath of our Latin American countries and a sworn enemy of Panama's independence and freedom.

Your most recent statements constitute a declaration of war against the Republic of Panama. Therefore, we must unmask you to find out the real meaning of your military statements.

We Panamanian patriots have never underestimated the capabilities or bravery of your soldiers: We are under no illusions as to why you have not launched direct military aggression against Panama.

However, you must also be aware of what you are getting into if you carry out the orders issued by Gen Colin Powers' office. You must realize that you will be responsible for a tragedy of incalculabale proportions, unleashing a hell infinitely worse than Lebanon. You must realize that the foolishness displayed by your superiors, including of course President George Bush, will bring mourning and pain to the families of the great American people, whom we respect and to whom we have shown sincere friendship throughout our history.

Something serious is happening in American society when, less than 20 years after its Army suffered an ignominious defeat, it wants to repeat the warmongering experience.

Panama is not on the other side of the world, and on this occasion the American people would suffer the rigors of a struggle without quarter.

Many of their men would flee and others would join our ranks; you will have the enemy even in your own room, and neither you nor your troops will have a single minute of peace in Panamanian territory if you attempt to destroy the nation where we were born.

You are already the losers, you are preparing for a struggle with defeat as part of your team. There is still time to advise the industrial-military dictatorship that rules your country to choose the path of dialogue to end the problems we are currently facing. Otherwise, even you will run the risk of returning home in a plastic bag.
May reason prevail over folly!
No to the U.S. aggression!
Not a step backward!
The die has been cast
Noriega to the year 2000

DENI Reports $100 Million Cocaine Seizure

PA1611014889 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Nov 89

[Text] The Special Antidrug Trafficking Force [FEAN] of the National Department of Investigation [DENI] totally dismantled a ring of Panamanian and Colombian drug traffickers following a 4-month covert operation called Guia Peppermint. The ring tried to smuggle approximately 1 ton of cocaine into the United States. Lieutenant Colonel Nivaldo Madrinan, DENI's general director, made this announcement this afternoon in the presence of Attorney General Carlos Villalaz, FEAN officials, and local and foreign newsmen. Here are Madrinan's statements with details on the operation.

[Begin Madrinan recording] FEAN agents had been infiltrating the criminal organization since August. Thanks to the help of informers, they managed to learn the drug traffickers' modus operandi. This criminal group tried to smuggle cocaine into the United States through the U.S. airline Challenger Air Cargo by introducing it as air cargo. The shipments were identified by the code name Guia Peppermint in their internal dealings. [end recording]

Madrinan added FEAN forces discovered a 100-kg cocaine shipment on 1 September in Challenger Air Cargo's warehouse in Panama. The shipment was identified as personal property and was destined for Miami, Florida. Based on normal police cooperation procedures,

FEAN officials provided their U.S. counterparts with all the information. Consequently, approximately 300 kg of cocaine were seized in Miami.

The shipment had been sent from Panama by the drug-trafficking ring. He said that on 21 September another cocaine shipment, weighing approximately 132 kg, was seized at Panama's Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport. The drug was going to be sent by this drug-trafficking ring to Boston. The same cargo airline was going to be used for this shipment with the drug hidden in computer equipment.

Once the covert operation was concluded, 432 kg of cocaine, belonging to the same criminal group, were discovered on 11 November. The gang members were found in House No 103, Sector 1, La Cabima, Ciudad Bolivar, in the Las Cumbres area of Panama City. The dismantling of the drug-trafficking ring in this covert operation led to the seizure of approximately 964 kg of cocaine. Of this amount, 664 kg were seized in Panama and 300 kg in Miami.

The arrested Panamanian citizens are: Cesar Euclides Cedeno Diaz and Emilia Morales de Santamaria. The drug seized is worth approximately $100 million on the U.S. market.

Speaking of the drug seizure, Attorney General Villalaz said that, although no arrests were made in Florida, the information provided in Panama led to the seizure of the 300-kg cocaine shipment.

[Begin Villalaz recording] Based on the government's position that, regardless of the political circumstances that surround Panama's international relations with any country in the world, in matters related to drugs or any other crimes, the Panamanian police are committed morally to inform their counterparts in charge of fighting crime—international drug trafficking in this case—that a crime may be committed in their countries. What does this mean to us? It means the Panamanian Government, along with all the organizations that make up the Panama Defense Forces and FEAN [words indistinct] regardless of the political conditions existing between governments. [end recording]

Canal Deputy Head Clarifies Stance on Successor

PA1511202189 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Nov 89

[Interview with Fernando Manfredo, deputy administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, by unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Manfredo] On 1 January 1990, we will be confronted with the situation that the United States has not appointed a Panamanian to the post of Panama Canal Commission [PCC] administrator. How can we then solve the problem of the administration of the Panama Canal?

Naturally, one of the possibilities is that the United States appoint a U.S. citizen as administrator. The other possibility might be that I stay temporarily in this position for a relatively short time until the problem between the two countries is resolved. However, I repeat, I have not received any specific proposal, much less have I committed myself to anything. However, we have studied the situation.

[Reporter] Why do you not consider the third option in this case, that is, Panama's opinion?

[Manfredo] It is not that I am not considering it. You will recall that...

[Reporter, interrupting] You have not mentioned it.

[Manfredo] You will recall this is not for me to decide. The U.S. Government has said it will not appoint the person proposed by Panama. So we have a de facto situation. This is not a desirable situation, and I am the first to regret this situation.

The fact is that on 1 January, we might be confronted with the situation that the United States might name a U.S. citizen as acting PCC administrator. The U.S. Government might appoint a deputy administrator, and since the post of administrator would be vacant, then the deputy administrator would become the acting administrator. I think that is not in the best interest of Panama.

[Reporter] When you say the situation has been studied, do you mean this has been studied by representatives of the government [not further specified] who have specifically come to discuss that?

[Manfredo] Yes, they are here to examine the problem that will arise on 1 January. I have told them the following: In the first place, if there is no solution—which is what you have just pointed out—and the treaties are not going to be complied with, we could then talk about the other possibility. However, it is not that I would accept the U.S. President appointing me as administrator as a substitute for the administrator proposed by Panama. Under no circumstance would I accept such a violation of the treaties.

What I have done is to study how we can save the situation so that the position occupied today by a Panamanian citizen can continue to be occupied, at least temporarily, by a Panamanian.

Argentina

Cavallo: Relations With U.K. To Resume in 1990

PY1511184489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1115 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Tokyo, 15 Nov (EFE)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo stated today in Tokyo that Argentina will resume diplomatic relations with Great Britain in 1990, providing the scheduled negotiations in Madrid in February 1990 end successfully.

The Argentine foreign minister told EFE that now there are two work groups (?in charge of) restoring confidence to the military sector and promoting bilateral contacts.

He added that the meeting of Argentine and British officials, scheduled for 14-15 February in Madrid, will be decisive in seeking a definite reconciliation between the two countries.

Cavallo explained to his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama the state of negotiations with Great Britain and the situation in his country following the inauguration of President Carlos Menem.

Nakayama told the Argentine foreign minister that it is important to create conditions for investments in Argentina and recalled the case of a Japanese company that failed to settle in that country as a result of bureaucratic barriers imposed on the project.

Cavallo answered that the failure may be attributable to the excessively restrictive measures imposed by the previous government, but he said that the new Cabinet is making a tremendous effort to attract foreign capital and is implementing an investment law that imposes the same conditions on national and foreign investors.

Menem: 'Blackened Faces' Display 'Provocation'

PY1511162489 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1024 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (DYN)—Former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico stated yesterday in Rosario that the chain of command in the Army "has been broken," and President Carlos Menem has termed the physical training display on 11 November by retired Colonel Mohamed Seineldin and about 500 "blackened faces" in Palermo a "real provocation."

Menem added that, although there are no laws to prevent them from meeting, "it is a matter of principle."

He said the display, in which former Lieutenant Colonels Rico and Venturino participated, is in his opinion "bad, very bad," and, "although they might have met in good faith, it represents a real provocation."

Rico, the leader of the Holy Week and Monte Caseros rebellions, stated that the current situation within the Army is "unstable, because the expected solutions have not fully materialized," and he said that he hopes that President Menem will adopt "the correct measures."

Rico, who was recently discharged by the Army commander, was unexpectedly seen entering an office at 1253 Entre Rios Street in Rosario by a reporter of the local LT-3 Radio station.

Rico said that he went there to talk with "a group of friends" on the situation within the "Army and the country."

According to cards distributed among the main communications media in Rosario, the offices of so-called National Recovery Movement [Movimiento de Recuperacion Nacional] will be dedicated at that address.

Rico said that "there are two Armies: one that follows the principles of [Former Argentine President General] Lanusse, which is social democratic and represents only the upper echelon of the Army."

He added that the other "is nationalistic and is led and epitomized by Col Mohamed Seineldin. It represents the true Army, and it continues to implement Operation Dignity."

He added, "The chain of command has been broken," and "because of this the Army is divided in two."

He also reported that some 1,800 Army members will participate in "the next training session," referring to the physical training display held on 11 November by some 500 "blackened faces" officers and noncommissioned officers in Palermo.

Drivers Agree To End Strike, Accept Arbitration

PY1511214789 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 15 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) The Bus Drivers' Union (UTA) decided yesterday to lift the strike carried out since last Tuesday and accepted the compulsory arbitration ordered by the government, although they described it as "unconstitutional."

In turn, FATAP [Argentine Federation of Automotive Passenger Carriers] bus owners grouping leader Luis Carral announced that his sector will pay an October basic salary of 80,000 australs and discount the strike days from the wages.

Representatives of both sectors reached the agreement at the National Labour Relations National Board, where they discussed their respective positions with government-appointed negotiator Anselmo Riva. UTA Social Action Secretary Mario D'Aprile confirmed the workers' acceptance of the compulsary arbitration, but made clear his opposition to the decision, "which limits the constitutional accepted right to strike."

D'Aprile said that "the union will continue with its strong position in defence of the workers to prevent

lay-offs or the discount of strike days." He said that "some 600 drivers had been laid off nationwide. [quotation marks as published]

Carral announced that since the union leaders' decision the transport system has returned to normal everywhere and admitted that the lay-offs already carried out "can be reconsidered."

Carral also praised the "patient and respectful attitude of the public" despite the numerous problems the strike caused.

The official arbitrator has now about one month to reach a decision which will be the final word on the issue.

Earlier, Passengers Transport Chamber (CEAP) Vice-President Hector Tilve has ruled out the drivers' accusations of metropolitan bus owners' companies being tax evaders, stressing that "our local businessmen are examples to the world and the statements of these union leaders are lamentable distortions of reality."

Government Considering Special Antidrug Force

PY1511220689 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (NA)—Justice Secretary Cesar Arias confirmed today that the government is studying the creation of a special antinarcotics force. Arias did not deny rumors that retired Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin could lead the force "just as any other citizen could." Arias also said that a decision on this force could be announced in about 10 days, but that the final decision will have to be made by President Carlos Menem.

Arias made these comments at Ezeiza International Airport upon returning from Europe, where he dealt with several matters related to the justice sector.

Arias said the force "must count on technically skilled men equipped with all the material necessary to effectively carry out their duties, instead of transforming the force into merely a bureaucratic organization." When asked if Seineldin could be named to head the force, Arias said: "No name can be overlooked." He added: "His name, like any other citizen's, can be considered. However, it is not yet time to choose someone to head the force."

Arias regretted not being able to give more details about the force "because we are still studying its establisment." He explained that the creation of this force depends on two things: the possibility of Argentina's situation becoming similar to Colombia's, and "simply the current development of drug trafficking in Argentina."

Considering the situation in Argentina, Arias said that the force should have 200 to 250 men. He declined to say, however, whether these men would be from the military or from the security forces.

Bolivia

Government Ends Talks; COB Goes Underground

PY1511142589 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] La Paz newspapers reported today that, 2 hours before the implementation of the state of siege, the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] at 0100 [0500 GMT] this morning decided to go underground, after a final attempt at negotiation with the government to solve the teachers conflict. This is the most serious crisis faced so far by the ruling coalition that took power 100 days ago.

We have no other alternative than to go underground, top COB leader Daniel Santalla stated. He regretted the unexpected end of negotiations, which had begun at 2100 last night.

After their second national meeting, at 1800 yesterday, several COB leaders went to the Labor Ministry to begin talks with Education Minister Mariano Baptista Gumucio and Labor Minister Oscar Zamora.

COB leader Milton Gomez reported that the education minister explained a new government option to the union leaders, proposing for next year the payment of the compensatory bonus demanded by the teachers in exchange for the suspension of the hunger strike they began 24 days ago. In response to this proposal, the labor union delegation, which is also comprised of top teachers' leaders, asked the ministers for the approval of President Paz Zamora. According to Milton Gomez, they then agreed to adjourn.

The education and labor ministers then met with the president and other ministers of the economic and political areas, with the purpose of resuming talks with the union leaders a little later. We were ready to accept the payment of the bonus next year before the beginning of classes, though it will be very difficult to convince several of our colleagues, Gomez said.

However, the COB general meeting decided not to lift the hunger strike as a coercive measure, and it ratified the teachers' decision not to accept less than a 300-bolivianos payment this year.

A little after midnight, Minister Baptista Gumucio phoned the COB leaders and unexpectedly announced that the talks will not continue, because the resolutions of the COB general meeting have not been reported, causing uneasiness at the government meeting.

We had no obligation to inform the minister about our general meeting. It is sufficient to state that we were willing to engage in a very flexible negotiation, Santalla stated.

After this conversation, the COB leaders waited for action to be taken against the hunger strikers and stated that they will not resist. We have no means to resist, and we must add that the COB categorically rejects the state

of siege and will always fight for the political and union rights provided for in the national Consitution.

Street Confrontations Escalate; Bombs Explode

PY1511133889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1310 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Excerpt] La Paz, 15 Nov (EFE)—[Passage omitted] The wave of violence that has been going on for 1 week in La Paz as a result of demonstrations carried out by labor unions has increased during the past few hours with street confrontations between police and demonstrators and with the explosion of 8 bombs.

The protests began approximmately 1 month ago in support of the economic demands of 74,000 teachers, who are asking for a bonus of approximately $100, but the violence became general when the government refused to grant the bonus.

More Restrictive Measures Imposed

PY1511175089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (EFE)—The La Paz Departamental Prefecture today decreed a "writ of good government," which forbids the circulation of groups of people and vehicles between 0100 and 0500 local time [0500 GMT AND 0900 GMT], as a supplementary measure to the state of siege that is in effect throughout the country.

The departamental government has prohibited meetings and street rallies, and has ordered public places to close at 0100 local time.

La Paz Mayor Fernando Cajias said that the government will guarantee the municipal elections scheduled for 3 December 1989.

The state of siege began today at 0245 local time (0645 GMT) to end the hunger strike by 3,000 union leaders, workers, and students throughout Bolivia, who are supporting the 74,000 teachers demanding a $90 bonus in compensation for the August 1989 fuel price increase.

The police simultaneously raided the union centers and schools throughout Bolivia where the hunger strikes are taking place, and arrested about 1,000 people.

Deputy Interior Minister Raul Loayza [title as received] confirmed the arrest of "a little more than 700 strikers," and added that at least 100 people have been banished to the tropical regions of Apolo, Ibibobo, and Ramon Dario in northern and eastern Bolivia.

Loayza said that many people are being set free, especially women, the aged, and some minors who were also arrested during the dragnet.

Loayza promised to release the full list of detained and banished people over the next few hours. Reporting from Apolo, a town located north of La Paz, Radio Panamericana confirmed the arrival in Apolo today of a Bolivian Air Force (FAB) airplane, transporting 50 persons who had been detained in La Paz. Deputy Justice Minister [title as received] Roger Pando said today that the government will prosecute the main trade union leaders, who have promoted a massive hunger strike, by pressing common criminal charges. The opposition parties, the Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB), and the Human Rights Assembly have repudiated the measures taken by the government. The clandestine COB has called on all workers to defend the citizens' rights that have been suspended for 90 days following the state of siege, and has asked that all detainees be immediately released. Jose Nunez del Prado, a leader of the opposition United Left (IU) front, has described the exceptional measures taken by the government of Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora as "repressive and dictatorial," and has said that Paz Zamora "has dropped his democratic mask to expose his social fascism." Nunez del Prado said that the IU has instructed IU militants and the mayors of cities and provinces "to mobilize to preserve the citizens' rights, personal safety, and freedoms."

Labor Federation Calls Strike for 16 November

PY1611020189 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] has called for a 24-hour strike to begin at 0000 on 16 November. COB leaders met in hiding to analyze the national situation and decided on a strike to demand the release of all the labor leaders being held under arrest. COB leader Filemon Escobar said that the decision had the unanimous support of all workers. Escobar read the operative part of the decision:

[Begin Escobar recording, in progress] ...decided what is to follow: a 24-hour national strike throughout the country on 16 November to demand the immediate release of [words indistict] and all COB labor leaders, leaders of the departamental federations and mine federations [words indistinct], and all labor and worker compatriots. [end recording]

Interior Under Secretary on Emergency Situation

PY1611025889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Roger Pando, Interior Ministry under secretary for justice, granted an interview to Panamericana in which he talked about the state of siege and the current labor unrest:

[Pando] "The hunger strikers interrupted their strike as soon as order was reestablished in the country. The Interior Ministry ended its activity today by ordering the confinement of 146 individuals to other cities as [words indistinct] and Apolo in northern La Paz. According to the reports we have, the three airplanes carrying the detainees have landed safely. Those held are being

treated well. They are being sheltered and fed appropriately to save them any possible inconvenience."

Roger Pando also talked about people who were arrested but not sent into confinement.

[Pando] "There is a group of nearly 180 people who have not been sent into confinement. They were lodged at the [word indistinct] batallion in El Alto and at the Tropes Police Regiment. This group is made up of nearly 60 women, many young people under 21, and some older people. They will be questioned and gradually released. I understand that the police are still holding 18 people at this time. They will be sent to the criminal department. This afternoon we had 55 people who directly participated in acts that violated the penal code. They and other teacher leaders will be brought to trial by the prosecutor's office."

Pando went on to discuss the possible release of more people.

[Pando] "We have released all the people who were incited, unduly convinced, or deceived into committing these crimes. We are studying the situation of those people who have violated the law."

Pando also talked about the list of people under arrest, saying that the ministry does not have any obligation to publish it.

[Pando] "We have assigned personnel to answer questions from relatives. It should be noted that Panamericana's service has already been given the list of people confined in Apolo and (Iquibobo). The list of the most of them has already been announced. Any speculation on this subject is only a result of incorrect information."

Roger Pando concluded by talking about the 24-hour strike that the COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] has called for tomorrow and the Bolivian Press Federation strike on 17 November.

[Pando] "Some press workers have regrettably joined the strike. Their reporting will thus not be as objective as it should be. The government will be severe in maintaining order. The prefectures have decreed the necessary measures to control the situation and to help the development of civilian and political activity, but we should not view the government's new conciliatory measures as a sign of weakness. We are surprised to notice that most factory and other labor leaders have gone into hiding. It seems that the only thing the labor leaders are not showing is a bit of intelligence in evaluating the situation and understanding the government's attempts to resolve the problem to develop the country and to continue to live in peace."

Brazil

Rede Globo Television Reportage on Vote Tally

Nationwide Vote Percentages

PY1611123089 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1207 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Let us now look at the nationwide percentages:

Fernando Collor has 24.9 percent of all the votes that have been counted by Rede Globo Telvision.

Luis Inacio da Silva (Lula) has 16.8 percent.

Leonel Brizola has 15.1 percent.

Mario Covas has 14.7 percent.

Paulo Maluf has 9.6 percent

These percentages have not changed very much.

Collor Still Leads

PY1611140089 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1315 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Now let us look at the nationwide vote count:

Fernado Collor de Mello is leading with 5,890,356 votes. Luis Inacio da Silva is in second place with 3,916,717 votes. In third place we have Leonel Brizola with 3,671,366 votes. Mario Covas comes fourth with 3,432,611 votes. Paulo Maluf is in fifth place with 2,275,067 votes.

The difference between Collor and Da Silva has not increased very much. The difference now stands at 8.4 percent; earlier the difference was 8.1 percent. The difference between Da Silva and Brizola now stands at 1.1 percent. [passage omitted]

President Sarney Commemorates Nation's Centennial

PY1611013589 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Address by President Jose Sarney on Republic Day from Planalto Palace—live]

[Text] Brazilians: Today is an important day in the history of the Brazilian people. The Republic was proclaimed 100 years ago. This Republic did not come into being by some accidental political gesture. It did so through a centuries-long process of maturation that began in 1789 with Tiradentes, who, in his trial at that time, was accused of attempting to institute the Republic.

The Republic was, no doubt, an imperative of modernization. It was the first act of Latin American integration. Brazil was the only empire in the Americas, the only country not ruled as a Republic. The idea of the country's independence was not necessarily associated with the idea of a republic. When the Brazilian Republic was

established the continent embraced the political ideal of transforming subjects into citizens.

In these 100 years we have experienced the greatness and misery of political and economic underdevelopment. We went through periods of great difficulties and great achievements. We had the ups and downs of freedom and authoritarianism. However, we can now proudly proclaim that this centennial finds us the seventh-largest industrial country in the West and the eighth-largest economy in the world. Our society today is pluralist and open, and our country has the largest industrial establishment in the southern hemisphere. Our country has experienced the highest rate of growth over the past 50 years. The nation now has consolidated values, an advanced system of civil and social rights; it supports the principles of self-determination, sovereignty, independence, and noninterference in the affairs of other states. This country believes in peace, negotiation, nonviolence, dialogue, and negotiated solutions. We condemn confrontation and injustice.

Brazil is a country of racial, political, and religious democracy where everyone's beliefs are respected. We are a Christian, hard-working, humanely great country; an American, European, and African country, where the bloodlines of all races coexist, open to all creeds. We have a destiny of greatness and universalism, and we are going to fulfill this destiny.

Brazilians: I speak to the nation as president of the Republic to say that today we offered the founders of the Republic—Deodoro, who had the vision and courage to proclaim the Republic, and its prophets and dreamers, like Benjamin Constant, Quintino Bacayuva, Francisco Glicerio, Ruy Barbosa, and many others—the greatest homage possible. Today 83 million Brazilians have commemorated the centennial of the Republic by going to the polls to consecrate Brazil as the third-largest democracy in the world. No commemoration could have been better than this election in a climate of freedom, participation, and peace.

Sousa Andrade, the great poet, heralded the advent of the Republic with this verse: The trees are in bloom, the Republic has been proclaimed!

Brazil is blooming today with the flowers of freedom that have opened in November to honor the centennial of the Republic. Good night.

Chile

Aylwin Complains About Government Junta Moves

PY1511225889 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Opposition presidential candidate Patricio Aylwin has called on all political sectors to reach a national agreement on the transition to democracy. He also called for members of the government junta to consider the seriousness of the laws they have recently approved and of those currently under study.

Aylwin delivered a message this morning to close the first stage of his election campaign, which included tours to all regions of the country. [passage omitted]

Aylwin said that the government's efforts to pass last-minute laws goes against a national desire for understanding among all Chileans. He made the following appeal to the members of the government junta:

[Begin Aylwin recording] I solemnly call on the patriotic consciences of the government junta members to consider the seriousness of the laws that are currently being studied. These laws tend to undermine the power of the next president of the Republic and to rapidly resolve very important issues against the people's will. [end recording]

Patricio Aylwin said that approving the current draft bills will not contribute to national unity or to an orderly and peaceful institutional transition. He said that, in their quest for understanding, the different political sectors should find common ground to reach a great national agreement.

[Begin Aylwin recording] Besides prohibiting all forms of violence during and after the electoral campaign, such an agreement should take into account the fundamental issues that will allow the establishment of an institutional order in the Republic, especially those issues that involve unrestricted respect for the constitutional power of the chief of state and Congress that will begin working next March.

The presidential candidates and political parties must therefore express their objections to any law or draft bill that could undermine the power of the next government or that will allow important decisions to be made without considering the people's opinion. Presidential candidates and political parties must commit themselves to reviewing the laws that are being approved. [end recording] [passage omitted]

* Buchi-Aylwin Debate Analyzed

90ET0012A Santiago ERCILLA in Spanish 11 Oct 89 pp 6-7

[Text] When newswoman Rosario Guzman Errazuriz "opened fire" at 2131 hours last Monday 9 October, she set in motion not only the first public debate between two candidates for president of the Republic but also the first U.S.-style political confrontation that the country has ever seen.

For close to 2 hours Hernan Buchi and Patricio Aylwin were subjected to a series of questions spanning a wide range of current issues. The questions were posed by journalists who had been carefully selected in a procedure that was indeed highly controversial, perhaps because it involved the only mistake that was made in preparing the program. The mistake was to submit the

names of the journalists who would take part to the respective political commands for their consideration.

Vetoes from both sides scuttled the chances of having prestigious professional newsmen, mass media directors, and national prize winners on the program. Channel 13 took responsibility in the face of this dilemma and put together a team that from what we saw on Monday was equal to the occasion and met the demands that had been posed.

On the one hand there were two newswomen who have distinguished themselves as interviewers: Raquel Correa and Rosario Guzman Errazuriz, whose well articulated questions can lay bare the mistakes in a given figure's thinking or bring to light its richness.

On the other there were two "in-house" professionals: Bernardo de la Maza and Claudio Sanchez, whose experience in the various fields of reporting was outlined by moderator Hernan Precht.

The Curtain Rises

The first question, posed by Rosario Guzman Errazuriz, marked not only the beginning of a debate that had captured the public's interest but also the end of a process that at times seemed to grow problematic, owing mainly to the various comments that followers of the two candidates made before the debate.

The forum for the debate was the result of careful planning, as both candidates prepared themselves conscientiously, realizing how important such televised debates are during an election campaign because of the inherent power of this medium. In fact, it was known for at least 2 months that the presidential candidates, at least the two with the best chances, would hold two televised public debates before the 14 December balloting.

American Style

The production team at Catholic University's channel spent many days—and nights—going over each aspect of the program, which was directed by Gonzalo Bertran, because although the point was to try out the American model in Chile, the debate could not just be a carbon copy of the well known debates during U.S. campaigns. The two candidates are not comparable to U.S. political leaders, and the Chilean process is far from resembling the calm transfer of political power there.

The screen and the setting favored Hernan Buchi, who was articulate and firm in his responses, even taking the time to make some kind remarks about his opponent, but without lapsing into poor taste. It became clear to many that the intense campaigning that the independent candidate has done has helped him to counter the long years of political experience of the Concertacion's representative, Patricio Aylwin.

The two candidates were facing more than cameras and newsmen. Smartly dressed and on their feet, they also had to appear before a carefully selected audience, including journalists, political leaders, diplomats, well known figures from the intelligentsia, science, and technology, as well as business and labor leaders. In all, more than 400 people filled the large TV studio.

There were no behavior problems inside the studio, except for the famous smiles that some of Buchi's comments elicited. An expectant public gathered outside the studio and was not kept under complete control. Some guests suffered the consequences; Ricardo Lagos, for example, was jeered by a rather large group of demonstrators.

The "main event" on Monday was 100 tense minutes of questions and answers, which the Television Corporation of Catholic University broadcast nationwide (with the help of several radio stations) but which any Chilean TV emcee would have found hard to endure. Buchi's youth and fine physical condition were evident. Aylwin, in contrast, looked tired at times, and towards the close of the program it became obvious, from an unavoidable comparison with his rival, that he was somewhat exhausted.

The controversial encounter began with a question to the independent candidate about the Concertacion's charges that he would just preserve the "status quo" of the military government, which in the Concertacion's judgment meant that he is not a democrat. Buchi clarified that experts from the Communist Party and what used to be Popular Unity are using certain words to create an image in the public's eyes. "Not only are they saying that I'm for the 'status quo' but also that I would be a 'fugitive.' That shows my independence." He then explained that what they meant was that his (Buchi's) government would be the same military government as today. "And all Chileans know that that's not possible," he indicated; "the military government is coming to an end, and a new government begins in March 1990."

He added that by saying "status quo" his adversaries wanted Chileans to believe that their situation would remain the same, that there would be no economic improvements. "We also know that that's not true," he asserted. "The economic future is going to depend on whether we are able to utilize well what we have sacrificed to do, to transform it into well-being for all."

He then defended himself against the charges that he was running a so-called "campaign of terror." He noted that of the 17 parties in the Concertacion, 10 were part of Popular Unity, 14 are socialist, and 8 are definitely Marxist. He emphasized that this was not a campaign, that he was just telling people the facts. And he pointed out that he has shown that he is a democrat by listening to the positions of others, which did not mean that he could not reject them respectfully while embracing their best features.

There were few surprises in the debate. The issues that were raised have been discussed at length in the mass media by the presidential candidates themselves and by their campaign activists: the basic political, economic,

and social planks in their government platforms, human rights, health care, education, social security, etc.

The interviewers were skillful. Bernardo de la Maza, for example, asked Aylwin what the accomplishments of the current government were, "especially since they are not acknowledged here in Chile but are overseas." Aylwin defended himself: "I have acknowledged them in the country and abroad, because it is my custom to always speak the same language." De la Maza would not let go: "What are they?" The Concertacion's candidate finally replied in greater detail: "The opening to foreign trade, the diversification and expansion of our exports, macroeconomic balances, holding down inflation to reasonable levels, and...I think that those are the fundamental achievements."

All in all, Monday's TV debate marked the beginning of a lengthy feud, as the two sides seek to defend the stands that their candidates took. We now await the surveys that polling firms are conducting to learn the impressions of the public that sat down in front of their TV sets Monday night. Many people watched in groups, later taking to the streets of Santiago to blow their car horns.

The first impression is that it was a much-needed and important debate that showed a Buchi who is equal to the job and who has been gaining ground on an erratic and shy candidate who used to blush when he had to face a flashbulb or TV camera. The feeling thus is that Buchi has gained the most from this encounter.

* Aftermath of Presidential Debate Reviewed

* Candidates Assessed

90ET0021A Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 22 Oct 89 pp D1, D2

[Article by Eduardo Arriagada Cardini: "Beyond the Numbers"]

[Text] The poll has finally come out. With 53 days to go before the election, the poll released by the CEP [Center for Public Studies] last Friday is the second nationwide survey this year and the first in which specific candidates are in the midst of their race for the presidency.

The campaign commands are not admitting it, but the poll has unpleasant surprises for everyone: for those who saw Aylwin up around 60 percent; for those who thought that Buchi was catching up with his main rival, and also for the supporters of Errazuriz who were mistaking human warmth for political backing.

The CEP has again caught the public's eye. Its June poll consolidated Hernan Buchi's candidacy; the new developments this time are in the senatorial races, in which several candidates were greeted with surprises that will make the road to December steeper for them.

The poll confirms the stability of the Chilean vote in the presidential race.

To Roberto Mendez this shows that "in spite of all the difficulties that the center-right campaign has had, there are no significant changes."

Mendez was talking about the many ups and downs in Hernan Buchi's candidacy since the last national poll was conducted, in March: The candidate's indecisiveness (declining and then agreeing to run); and the emergence of such diverse figures as Jarpa, Diez, Monckeberg, Alessandri, or Perez de Arce. In spite of all this, his support remains stable.

Moreover, Mendez emphasizes the high percentage of people who have not yet decided how they will vote. "This could be interpreted as showing that the campaigns have not yet hit their maximum efficiency."

Recalling international experiences, he asserts that the last month always holds the key to voters' decisions.

Buchi's Chances

Even though the poll was conducted before the presidential debate and the rally in the National Stadium, Hernan Buchi's supporters were the most eager to see its findings. A few hours after the poll was published, they put out their own graphs showing their standardbearer on the rise and Aylwin on the decline, with projections showing Buchi winning in the second round.

"In recent weeks Patricio Aylwin's decline and Hernan Buchi's rise in the polls have become more obvious and significant."

The CEP survey shows that Buchi is strongest in rural areas, in towns with populations of under 20,000. In these communities Aylwin gets 35.1 percent; Buchi 39.9, and Errazuriz 9.9. This is a key piece of information for the campaign of the center-right's representative, because last year it was the turnaround in rural areas during the last month that enabled the no vote to win.

Mendez recalls how important the political time slot on TV was then but doubts that there will be a repeat of that degree of influence: "We have to consider that the country has been in an ongoing campaign for 2 years and that perhaps there is a degree of saturation. We must also bear in mind that they are trying to get a second time slot for the legislators."

The Issues of the Campaign

Mendez emphasizes that the poll shows that the Concertacion has demonstrated greater political skill and has raised the issues on which its standardbearer appears strongest. Key issues such as robberies and assaults or the handling of the economy are not among its high-profile issues.

The CEP poll asked people about issues that have not been raised during the campaign, such as private television, the role of unions, higher taxes, and competition.

Mendez emphasizes that on all of them "the electorate takes a free-market stand, even those who support Patricio Aylwin."

He adds that these issues, which could strengthen Buchi and divide the ranks of the Concertacion, are not being debated publicly, which he attributes to shortcomings in the political skills of the Buchi campaign and to an overemphasis on the candidate's personal talents.

Another aspect of Buchi's campaign that is worth considering, according to Mendez, is the poor marks that he gets for his ability to stand up to pressure. As far as the director of Adimark is concerned, this is due to the deep divisions that his supporters have shown. "This could be reversed to the extent that Buchi's followers band together under his leadership."

In Aylwin's case the situation is reversed because he allegedly showed political skill in uniting the opposition. His biggest weakness, therefore, is the handling of the economy, where Buchi is clearly perceived as stronger.

Aylwin Down?

Aylwin was expected to decline. The word last week was that the stock market was up because he had dropped below 50 percent. This poll shows, however, that there is no evidence confirming that the Concertacion's candidate has ever fallen to that level.

Public opinion has been distorted because polls including rural areas have not been conducted in recent months, and Buchi's popularity has not changed there. The only indication that support for Aylwin was dropping was the flash poll that the CEP conducted after the TV debate.

The polls that showed Aylwin at around 60 percent were conducted in Santiago. The CEP confirms the majority that other surveys give him in the capital: Aylwin 57.3 percent, Buchi 34.1 percent.

Errazuriz: A Spoiler?

The Errazuriz problem is also pending. Mendez feels that the findings are "interesting" in that he has remained at around 12 percent. He emphasizes Errazuriz' significantly greater support in the south, where he has 15 percent of the voters. The poll also shows that Errazuriz' campaign has been successful in occupying the center, as most of his backers describe themselves as belonging to that part of the political spectrum.

The Adimark researcher underscores that a system with a second round of balloting prevents a repetition of the "spoiler effect." He says that this time "the damage that a minority candidate can do is not irreparable."

In spite of Errazuriz' decline since the March poll, his command interpreted the poll as "a reflection of a steady rise" by the candidate. The candidate himself, however, said that he did not believe in this sort of poll. "I don't believe in polls," was his first reaction.

As for the future of his candidacy, Mendez asserts that one definite effect of the candidates' time slot on TV will be to prevent his candidacy from disappearing because of the polarization that is a feature of the last month. "The TV time allotment will favor the candidate farthest behind by placing him on the same level as his adversaries. This is especially important because it will happen in a forum that is decisive for independents. The plebiscite showed that even those who refused to watch the debates saw the time slot on TV."

Senators: What Was the Sample?

The forecasts of senatorial races are cause for celebration for National Renewal and the PPD [Party for Democracy]. The party led by Jarpa has four activists (one is Jarpa himself) among the favorites to make it to the upper house, and two independents supported by them are also ahead of their colleagues on the slate. The PPD has four men in the lead, as does the DC [Christian Democracy], where the Freis are doing almost all the work. Moreover, each of the following has one frontrunner: the UDI [Independent Democratic Union], the Communist Party, the radicals in PAIS [Broad Party of the Socialist Left], Buchi's radicals, the Humanists, and another independent rightist.

If this trend were to be extrapolated to the provinces that were not surveyed (1, 3, 4, 10, 11, and 12), the elected part of the Senate would be split almost evenly between Buchi's and Aylwin's slates.

But the last word has not been spoken. EL MERCURIO was given the figures on the sizes of the samples among which the poll was conducted: southeast Santiago, 634; northwest Santiago, 663; Second Region, 258; interior of fifth, 299; coastal fifth, 280; sixth, 323; northern seventh, 260; southern seventh, 268; northern eighth, 365, and southern eighth, 255.

Mendez clarified that to conduct this poll additional samples had to be added in certain regions, but even so the proportional size of the sample is smaller than the nationwide survey, and thus the margin of error is a few points higher.

What Will Happen in December?

There are just 7 and ½ weeks left, but there is still a long way to go. Mendez stresses that the last month could be decisive. "Given the data that we have, Aylwin could win in the first round, just as the gap between Aylwin and Buchi could narrow."

He then adds that "we are getting into the area of interpretation, forecasting, where the investigator's subjectivity predominates. We would have to evaluate the vote among Armed Forces personnel and their relatives and see whether their position coincides with any of the front runners. We would also have to analyze the undecided vote."

In this regard he recalls that the CERC [Center for Contemporary Reality Studies] has asserted that the undecided voters are mostly Buchi supporters. They are the group most affected by the "spiral of silence" (see table). The future of the Errazuriz vote is also in doubt. And he concludes: "If I were forced to make a prediction, I could only say that the gap between Aylwin and Buchi right now would tend to narrow."

*** Poll Analyzed**

90ET0021B Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 22 Oct 89 pp F1, F2, F3

[Article by Eduardo Arriagada Cardini: "What Would You Have Said?"]

[Text] A poll taker could have walked up to your home, rung the bell, and with his best smile asked you...for a half-hour of your time. Had you agreed, you would have been one of the 3,759 people surveyed by the Adimark company for the Center for Public Studies [CEP]. This poll does not necessarily represent your opinions and attitudes right now, however, since it was conducted between 23 September and 8 October.

The poll was conducted mostly on weekends, when students and working men could be found at home. Remember that the method of probability that Adimark uses is very strict about the need to interview a given member of a specific household, both selected at random. If the person in question is not home, the poll taker has to come back some other time. For reasons of cost, after the third unsuccessful try the potential respondent is considered unreachable but cannot be replaced.

The CEP's Chile

So to see your views on the issues that were mentioned, you have to remember how you felt during the time that the poll was taken.

It all began on the weekend of 23 and 24 September....Do you remember Aylwin's meeting with King Juan Carlos of Spain on the Sunday that he arrived in Chile? Buchi was leading a mass jogging session in Vina del Mar, and Errazuriz was receiving the backing of the National Party.

The following week Buchi revealed his program. You may recall Saturday the 30th because of the opening of the Estadio Monumental de Colo Colo.

Then came Almeyda's and Teitelboim's statements; Baraona began talking about the secret pact, and the no vote supporters celebrated the first anniversary of the plebiscite. The seventh and eighth of October were the last weekend of the poll. There was no major political news. Julio Bocca and Sara Nieto were given an ovation in the Municipal Theater; Mario Lepe broke another bone....

If you changed your mind after the presidential debate or in the days following the rallies in the National Stadium or Matucana, you will have to wait for another poll to see this reflected.

Adimark sent 200 poll takers around the country to gather your views. They went out from from Santiago, Antofagasta, Concepcion, Temuco, and Valdivia. But they did not make it to "the farthest corner." Once again reasons of cost in proportion to the size of the population prevented the poll from being conducted in the 11th Region, the island territories (with the exception of Chiloe), our part of the Antarctic, and certain rural areas, which have few inhabitants besides being difficult to reach.

You cannot feel that you are represented either if you do not live at home. Hospitals, jails, convents, and Armed Forces quarters, among others, were left out this time. In spite of all these gaps, the 3,759-person sample represents 96 percent of Chilean voters, with a margin of error of plus or minus 2.8 percent.

A Simulated Ballot

So that you would not feel pressured in answering the questions, the researchers were careful in drafting the questionnaire. The language they employed could be regarded as politically neutral and, at the same time, understandable to people with little schooling.

The question about how you voted in last year's plebiscite was eliminated from this poll. The Adimark people noted that although respondents had no trouble expressing their opinion about December, the question about the yes or no vote prompted resistance and shattered the atmosphere of trust, thus adversely affecting the rest of the interview.

The question about the senatorial and presidential elections was not asked aloud by the interviewer, because his pronunciation or tone of voice could betray some bias in reading the names of the candidates. Instead, a simulated ballot identical to the one that we will use in December was handed out.

The interviewers who could have visited you were careful about how they looked, too. They tried to see to it that their clothing or appearance would not associate them with radical views and they were also taught how to create an atmosphere of trust.

No Room for Error

Whether this sort of poll truly represents public opinion depends solely on the supervision of the field work. So as not to stumble here, Adimark trains groups of 10 interviewers and puts a supervisor, who does the first checkup, in charge of each.

There are also "second interviewers" who randomly choose 20 percent of the sample and return to the addresses in question to see whether the interviews were conducted correctly and completely with the proper individual and in the proper place.

The Effect of the Debate

The presidential debate on Channel 13 confirmed the importance of flash studies, which are polls that give

priority to the rapid gathering of information over the strictness of methodology. As a result, they are not regarded as descriptive studies, in other words, studies that are suitable for making predictions. Like the "focus group" studies that consumer-goods companies use to test their new items, flash studies are exploratory and, therefore, do not represent public opinion.

This does not mean that they are unimportant. In the United States they are always conducted over the phone while the candidates are debating. We have to realize, however, that they are useful in pointing out trends and sounding out public opinion. In Chile they are used to assess the general impact of a debate.

Moreover, Roberto Mendez indicates that such an assessment is very difficult because viewers are far from objective and by and large think most highly of the candidate whom they already prefer. In addition, the undecided are reluctant to watch such programs.

As a result, the CEP preferred to see whether the program changed any minds rather than to evaluate how Aylwin and Buchi performed.

The Santiago sample in the nationwide poll was compared to another similar sample on 10 and 11 October. The second poll used the same sample design, and in order to make them comparable, matched interviews were conducted, in other words, on the same blocks though not of the same individuals. The number of respondents was smaller (520), and it was conducted in 48 hours.

The findings are not exactly comparable to the rest of the poll released on Friday, but they do differ from what the Bestland company made public after the debate. When questioned about this, Mendez asserted that the company in question used an "ad hoc methodology that is not like any other internationally known one, and the data published on this methodology do not allow us to draw conclusions about its quality."

As far as the Adimark researcher is concerned, the key to the poll is how the individuals were selected and the atmosphere while the program was being aired and the poll was being evaluated. "If you go to someone's house as a guest and sense the owner's position, he will feel pressured."

Voter Intentions Before and After the Presidential Debate (entire sample from Santiago)

Intend To Vote for	Before (22 Sep-8 Oct)	After (10-11 Oct)
Aylwin	57.3	55.5
Buchi	34.1	35.5
No answer/blank	8.6	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Declared Change in Image of Buchi and Aylwin After the Program

	Buchi's Supporters	Aylwin's Supporters
For the better	72.7	64.9
For the worse	3.7	0.5
No change	22.1	34.6
No answer	1.5	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

The Chilean Vote According to Political Position

	Aylwin	Buchi	Errazuriz	Undecided
Right and center-right	9.5	72.9	13.7	3.9
Center	46.5	24.0	23.0	6.5
Left and center-left	91.1	2.0	3.7	3.3
Undecided and no position	32.3	28.8	9.7	29.3

Assessment of the Candidates (percentage of the total sample who answered "very" for each)

	Aylwin	Buchi	Errazuriz
Intelligent and prepared	59.4	50.4	35
Able to resist sector pressures	51.9	28.5	19.1
Attractive as a person	36.6	30.2	22.9
Conveys vitality and enthusiasm	40.6	43.3	21.3

Relative Strength of the Candidates for the Tasks Regarded as Most Important (percent who think that one would do "better" than the others)

Task	Aylwin	Buchi	Errazuriz
Improve hospitals, clinics, first-aid centers	48.9	27.5	13.1
Improve education	48.3	28.8	12.4
Cut unemployment	46.6	30.6	12.3
Economic growth	39.9	38.7	11.5

The Chilean Vote by Age Group

	Aylwin	Buchi	Errazuriz
18-34	51.9	27.5	12.3
35-54	46.0	30.2	11.4
55 and over	40.0	36.0	9.6

The Chilean Vote by Social and Economic Status

	Aylwin	Buchi	Errazuriz
Upper	33.0	50.6	7.8
Middle	43.5	32.4	12.6
Lower	54.1	25.0	10.2

Poll Shows Need for Second Round of Elections

PY1511212389 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Joaquin Lavin, a candidate for deputy from the Democracy and Progress Accord [Pacto Democracia y Progreso], has reported that a poll conducted by the (Inves-Merk) enterprise indicates that there will be a second round of elections. Lavin said that presidential candidate Hernan Buchi would obtain 54.5 percent of the votes in this second round and Patricio Aylwin would receive 45.5 percent, as a result of the great number of seats in Congress that the left will obtain—which will influence the voters' final decision.

[Begin Lavin recording] The latest poll carried out by (Inves- Merk) in October reflects the following results: 42.9 percent for Aylwin, 34.1 percent for Buchi, 9.2 percent for Errazuriz, and 13.8 percent undecided. A poll of a second group of voters revealed an 8.8-percent difference between Aylwin and Buchi.

The amount of support for Buchi plus the amount for Errazuriz is greater than that for Aylwin, which indicates that there will be a second round of elections. This is the current political panorama. [end recording]

Free Television Electoral Campaign Starts

PY1511193489 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Excerpt] The free-of-charge television electoral campaign has begun, and the congressional candidates will broadcast their platforms to the nation in four separate blocks per day.

The first spot of the Republic's presidential candidates was broadcast last night.[passage omitted]

Some 7.5 Million People To Vote in December

PY1511200889 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Summary] According to Juan Ignacio Garcia, the director of the electoral service, 7,557,537 Chilean citizens and foreigners residing in Chile, who are over 18 years of age and who have fulfilled the legal requirements, will participate in the presidential elections scheduled for 14 December.

MIR Terrorist Arrested After Newspaper Holdup

PY1511203789 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Julio Enrique Calcino Madariaga, the only individual arrested following the aborted holdup at the LA EPOCA and LA NACION newspaper agency on San Luis Boulevard in front of the Vina del Mar bus stop, has been placed at the disposal of the military prosecutor.

The Carabineros in Valparaiso also reported that the homes of Julio Enrique Calcino—who was arrested in Villa Alemana—and of the individual killed in a clash with the police have been searched. As a result the Carabineros seized a significant amount of subversive material, a BZP-25 submachine gun with two metal clips, 75 9-mm Czechoslovakian-made bullets, 500 grams of ANFO [ammonium nitrate-fuel oil blasting agents], 100 grams of gunpowder, 1 liter of sulfuric acid, ski masks, rubber and wool gloves, and a detailed plan for the holdup at the newspaper agency.

The Carabineros also reported that Julio Calcino had confessed that he and the individual who was killed both belonged to the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR. This information was confirmed with the discovery in their houses of plenty of literature, documents, and other items belonging to this subversive group.

Calcino and Nibaldo Alfredo Navarro Soviable, students at the Santa Maria University engineering school, tried to hold up the LA EPOCA and LA NACION agency. Calcino was arrested and Navarro Soviable was shot during a clash with policemen. These two individuals are also responsible for a holdup at the SUMA [expansion unknown] company, where they murdered the owner and one employee.

Carabineros Discover Clandestine Arms Factory

PY1511171389 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Carabineros personnel from (La Pincolla) have discovered a clandestine arms factory.

Three adults and one minor [numbers as heard] have admitted that they set up the factory, where weapons of various calibers are made.

In the factory, the Carabineros officers found more than 10 shotguns, pistols, and ammunition of various calibers [passage omitted]

Those arrested have been identified as 25-year-old Julio Domingo Laranjo Ocampos, alias Del Polo Ciego; his 18-year-old brother, who is known as "El Sancho;" 24-year-old Christian Fabian Barrera, alias "El Brinco;" Victor Gauto; and 18-year-old Humberto Parra Bacias, alias "El Picho."

Colombia

Judges, Judicial Employees Call Off Strike

PA1511160389 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1223 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] The judicial employees' activities will return to normal as of today, following an agreement reached between the government and ASONAL [Judicial Branch National Association], which has ended the strike. According to ASONAL President Helmuth Romero, all affiliates' regional asssemblies will be held at 1000 today to notify them of the results of the meeting with Justice Minister Roberto Salazar Manrique, where the security of judges and magistrates of the Republic was thoroughly discussed and important achievements were obtained. After the assemblies are held, activities in the various judicial offices will return to normal, Helmuth Romero stated.

All judges and employees of the district courts in Bogota and Medellin have announced they will lift the strike today, 15 Novemeber, following the meeting held with Justice Minister Salazar Manrique. The judges and employees will hold a special meeting today at the Paloquemao offices.

The ASONAL affiliates held a 3-hour meeting with the justice minister; afterwards, they agreed to return to work once they meet with the ASONAL affiliates of Bogota and Medellin to notify them of the agreements reached with the national government concerning protection of the Republic's magistrates and judges.

Referring to the meeting with the justice minister, ASONAL leader Romero said that today the national government will deliver the equipment needed for the safety of magistrates and judges—such as armored cars, bullet-proof vests, and bodyguards—to judicial officials.

[Begin recording] [Romero] We praise the government's decision to once again hold talks with the judges and to propose effective solutions to our demands. We must admit that the justice minister was very clear in telling us about the measures that will be implemented in an effort to provide greater security to Colombian judges.

[Reporter] Did you reach an agreement?

[Romero] Yes, in fact. The justice minister gave us specific details about the security equipment that has been purchased, such as bullet-proof vests, armored cars, bodyguards, and so forth. As of tomorrow, this equipment will be handed over to those officials who request it. We also reached an agreement on providing security to judicial office buildings. Some offices that are in danger will be transferred sometime this week to safer areas.

[Reporter] Does this mean the strike is over?

[Romero] ASONAL and the judges' committee decided that we will hold regional assemblies on 15 November throughout the country. We are planning to lift the strike.

[Reporter] This means that on 15 November the courts will be opened?

[Romero] Yes, that is, after we have held our assemblies and have given the judicial officials all the information we have on hand. We will meet at 1000 on 15 November with the nation's attorney general to discuss the issue. We hope he will have the same attitude and be open to a dialogue with the judges.

[Reporter] What does the justice minister have to say about that?

[Romero] He has clearly said his office is not empowered to decide this issue. However, the justice minister has arranged for the meeting with the attorney general, and we will attend the meeting.

[Reporter] Is it true that 1 billion pesos have been assigned for the judges' security fund?

[Romero] No, 2 billion pesos have been assigned. By 15 December at the latest, the judicial branch security fund will be operating fully with the funds and organization required. [end recording]

M-19 To Give Weapons to Socialist International

PA1611032789 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0026 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Bogota, 15 Nov (EFE)—Colombia's 19 April Movement (M-19) will turn over its weapons to the Socialist International (SI), the group's spokesman Ramiro Lucio officially announced today. On 2 November the M-19 signed a political agreement with the national government for the sake of democracy.

Lucio said, "The last stumbling block to peace has been removed, and thanks to the efforts made by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, the M-19 will turn over its weapons to SI on a date that has not yet been determined.

The guerrilla spokesman added that a tripartite commission, made up of representatives of the Virgilio Barco administration, SI, and M-19, was established to draft an inventory of his group's weapons and the mechanism to be followed, along with the date for their turn over.

The M-19, which postponed the signing of the "document for demobilization"—the last step before the reincorporation of its militants into civilian life begins—will become a political party once it lays down its weapons, Lucio recalled.

He believes that Carlos Andres Perez and the SI "have done a great favor for the achievement of peace in Colombia" and pointed out that this is "a guarantee of the seriousness of, compliance with, and great thrust given to the national reconciliation process."

The M-19 leader said that "Perez sought the help of former German Foreign Minister Willy Brandt, the SI president, to reach the agreement.

The signing of the "document for demobilization" was postponed on three occasions, on 2, 6, and 13 November, while it was being determined to which international group the M-19 guerrillas would turn over their weapons.

* Downturn in Economic Output Foreseen

90ET0013A Bogota SEMANA in Spanish 10 Oct 89 pp 34-35

[Unattributed article: "An Ounce of Prevention..."]

[Text] For months now the air has been filled with uncertainty. In spite of the appeals for calm and the statements by the main players on the economic team, more than one observer is worried about the future of the Colombian economy. Such concern became evident as soon as the problems on the world coffee market arose and it intensified, for obvious reasons, when the war against drug trafficking began. As a result, uncertainty has become a constant in the business climate.

Nonetheless, although no one knows what is going to happen, few believe that the ultimate outcome for the economy will be good. The impression is apparently shared by bankers and officials of international agencies alike. According to several of the people attending the recent assembly of the World Bank and the IMF in Washington, the future of the Colombian economy is viewed with mounting pessimism. The most skeptical even feel that within a year the incoming administration will start talking about the need to reschedule the foreign debt, since efforts have not begun to secure loans to make up for the ones that are going to be paid off in 1990 and 1991. Although a portion has already been obtained for next year in the negotiations for the Challenger loan, analysts believe that it is essential to secure funds from multilateral agencies like the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. The feeling is that in all Colombia will shell out some $2 billion a year to amortize its debt in 1990 and 1991.

A study in the publication LA NOTA ECONOMICA, whose editor is the former head of national planning in the Betancur administration, Jorge Ospina Sardi, described this bleak panorama in black and white a few weeks ago. According to the article, "the current economic situation shows worrisome downtrends that if not rectified will inevitably lead to a prolonged economic recession similar to the ones that other Latin American countries have suffered." Worse yet, the document says that "so far there have been no clear indications that this administration, on the eve of elections, is prepared to undertake these rectifications."

If this is the case, there can be no doubt that the prospects are truly grim. Not only is the current economic situation bad, but the country is not going to be the same as before. The change in the coffee market and the potential loss of foreign exchange from drug trafficking are two facts that are going to be permanent. In light of this, observers and international financial institutions feel that economic policy cannot remain the same either.

And apparently it is not going to. SEMANA has learned that for 3 weeks now the administration has been readying a plan that supposedly includes economic-adjustment measures, some of them clearly unpopular. Contrary to what is believed, all indications are that the government would rather suffer the discredit that belt-tightening now would entail rather than "hobble" the next administration. The decision to move ahead is based on the simple fact that such measures have to be taken as soon as possible. As the article in LA NOTA ECONOMICA says, "recent experience in Colombia shows that the longer macroeconomic trends are allowed to worsen, the harder and more severe the adjustment, which will have to be undertaken sooner or later anyway." The best example of this is the Betancur administration, which during its first 2 years did little or

nothing to halt the economy's unquestionable slide. The decline was ultimately halted when Roberto Junguito became finance minister, but the cost was heavy.

The administration must show a real resolve to undertake an adjustment in the next few days. The first arena of confrontation has to be an increase in the domestic price of coffee, which affects some 2 million people directly or indirectly. Coffee growers have traditionally demanded that their buying power be preserved, but meeting that demand is undeniably impossible today. Estimates are that it costs the country $1.05 to place a pound of coffee on the international market, which cannot be reconciled with prices under 80 cents a pound. Although some progress was made in talks last week in London, nothing suggests that even in the best-case scenario the Coffee Pact will be reestablished in less than several months. In the face of this certainty, the only approach is to cut costs, and in this connection reducing the real domestic price is fundamental (the real price is thought to be some 70 cents a pound).

Consequently, the administration simply wants no change in the domestic price of coffee. As an expert in the field told SEMANA, "it is obvious that our coffee is not competitive internationally and that at current domestic-price levels it is impossible to contend on the free market." Such a decision would unquestionably depress coffee-growing zones, but the administration is apparently prepared to pay the price in discredit rather than leave the National Coffee Fund in worse shape. The question mark is whether it has the political will to stand up to the pressures of the coffee union, whose members would see their buying power drop close to 25 percent.

The other domestic battlefield is the budget deficit. LA NOTA ECONOMICA asserts that if nothing is done to stem it, the government's red ink would be equivalent to 4 percent of the Gross Domestic Product in 1990. Such a level would create serious problems for economic policy. The experience of the previous adjustment indicates that financing an excessive budget deficit winds up adversely affecting other sectors of the economy and could create inflationary and exchange-rate pressures.

Therefore, the government has set itself a goal of limiting the deficit to no more than 2.5 percent of the GDP in coming years. Achieving this objective will be especially difficult if we take the collapse of coffee prices into account. This is why the cuts announced by Finance Minister Luis Fernando Alarcon in public investment and government spending are necessary. In addition, public-utility rates may rise, and subsidies may be abolished to save the government money. Although we already know that such measures will inevitably carry a social price, it would reportedly be much heavier if the deficit is allowed to get out of hand. As if all this were not enough, some are proposing new taxes to make up for the government's shortfall, but the feeling is that the political climate is not right for this idea to prosper, and therefore it will be put off until the new administration takes office.

With these fronts under control, the next challenge is overseas borrowing. As opposed to what happened in previous years, this time the challenge is not to obtain support from private international banks but to secure the cooperation of the World Bank and the IDB. Although this is clear, the problem is that the World Bank is behaving coolly towards Colombia. The reason is that the country has repeatedly failed to carry out the plans to straighten out the electric-power sector, which according to one observer "is ruining the economy." The financial burden of this sector is so great that it has to be brought under control before the hole gets any deeper.

Therefore, if Colombia wants money from the bank, the first thing that it has to do is regain its credibility. Another mission of World Bank officials is supposed to arrive next week in Bogota to see how the adjustment plan for the electric-power sector is doing. If things go well, the next step is to file several loan applications. According to former Finance Minister Rodrigo Llorente, who attended the World Bank assembly as an observer, "the bank is not processing a single Colombian project."

Nevertheless, the administration hopes to make up for lost time with the adjustment offensive that it plans to begin in the coming days. As a member of the economic team told SEMANA, "the mess with the World Bank is can be fixed." Mindful of this, he asserted that the overseas outlook is clear up to 1992.

Moreover, some experts feel that other alternatives ought to be examined. As former Minister Llorente says, "we have to decide through what door we want to enter." Consequently, the conservative economist recommends pressuring the U.S. Government. Llorente feels, for example, that Colombia could seek soft loans for the National Coffee Fund from Washington through the Agency for International Development (a 50-year term, 3-percent interest, with a 5-year grace period) and could try to get the U.S. Government's farm-price-support agencies to buy part of our coffee inventories at a higher than world-market price.

All of these plans and alternatives will begin to be studied and tried out in the days to come. For the time being, in spite of how unpopular it will be, all indications are that the administration would rather act sooner than later. Although few doubt that a flood of criticism is on the way, Alarcon and his team have apparently decided to pluck up their courage and start applying the proverb about an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure.

26 Guerrillas Killed in Puerto Libertador Area

PA1511172189 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1237 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Monteria—Bloody clashes have been taking place in the rural area of Puerto Libertador Municipality, south of Cordoba, since 11 November. The number of guerrillas killed by 11th Brigade troops has risen to 26.

According to reports given just a few minutes ago by military sources, three more members of the self-styled Popular Liberation Army, EPL, were killed in (Mutata), Tres Playitas hamlet, Juan Jose corregimiento, in the clashes that took place on 14 November. This brings the number of guerrillas killed in this area of Puerto Libertador to 21 . In addition, five members of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] were killed in La Rica, where combat began on 11 November. It was also reported that the the Army suffered no casualties. Soldier Luis Eduardo Gonzalez Anaya, who was wounded in combat, has been taken to the Bogota military hospital. [as heard]

In the meantime, Colombian Air Force personnel are repairing the helicopter that made an emergency landing in the area after being damaged, apparently by the rebels. Military operations continue in the rural area of Puerto Libertador Municipality, led and coordinated by 11th Brigade Commander Colonel Ivan Ramirez Quintero.

Peru

Larco Cox Addresses OAS, Mentions Panama

PY1511200189 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0148 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Washington, 14 Nov (EFE)—Speaking to the 19th OAS General Assembly, Peruvian Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco Cox today said that in his country the people preserved democratic practices in the 12 November municipal elections, "rejecting insane terrorism and subversive violence."

In his analysis of the regional situation, Larco Cox also mentioned "the [words indistinct] persistence in violating the Panamanian people's will." He also warned that "the Panamanian situation will remain a potential center of tension" that will challenge the "hemisphere's coordination capabilities."

Larco Cox's words prompted an immediate rejoinder from the Panamanian representative, Romulo Escobar Betancourt. In response, Larco Cox said: "Do not give me lessons on dignity. The Peruvian people are facing the combined scourge of drug-trafficking gangs and the criminal guerrillas, but this did not stop us from holding free elections on Sunday."

The Peruvian foreign minister reported on these elections in his speech, saying: "Beyond their disparate proposals, the political parties have united under a (?multiparty) coordinating umbrella for peace and democracy." Larco Cox added that the people's will to vote could not be defeated. He said: "Neither the insane terrorism nor the serious economic crisis have been able to discourage our people's profound democratic sentiment."

Larco Cox pointed out to the OAS that "the terrorist violence" over the past 9 years has caused 9,000 deaths, mostly peasants, popular leaders, government officials, soldiers, and policemen. He also denounced the combination of the guerrilla [words indistinct]. In this regard, he noted that the presidents of Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia recently held a meeting to coordinate the struggle against drug trafficking.

Military Suspends Curfew in Junin, Pasco

PY1511191889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0143 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Huancayo, 14 Nov (EFE)—Peruvian military authorities today lifted the curfew in the departments of Junin and Pasco, in the central Peruvian mountain region. The curfew was imposed on 6 November because escalating terrorist actions against the recent municipal elections.

The political-military command that controls this emergency zone released a communique today that briefly reports this military decision. Huancayo is the capital of the department of Junin, located 315 km east of Lima.

The communique reports the suspension of the curfew, and adds that there was a massive turnout at the elections and "the people behaved well."

At first, the curfew was in effect for 7 hours per day. Then for the 2 days prior to the elections, it was extended by 3 hours.

The decision by military officials sought to counteract the escalating terrorist action by the Maoist "Shining Path" group, which threatened the elections with crimes and attacks, called an "armed strike," and threatened people with death over that weekend.

In other Peruvian departments that have imposed a state of emergency—such as Ayacucho, Apurimac, and Huancavelica—the curfew remains, although it was established [words indistinct] before Junin and Pasco.

Garcia Comments on APRA, Elections, Terrorism

PY1511173989 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Impromptu news conference by President Alan Garcia in Lima on 14 November—recorded]

[Text] [Garcia] I think that the most important thing was Ricardo Belmont's triumph, which must be interpreted in different ways—for example, from the point of view of the importance of the personality of a candidate in obtaining votes despite his political leanings.

I would like to make some remarks. If we add all district candidacies and all the provincial votes of the country, we will find that APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] continues to be the strongest political paryt in Peru. We must bear in mind that FREDEMO [Democratic Front] and the United Left are coalitions of several parties. This means that the APRA party has obtained more than 20 percent of all the votes cast in the country.

I think this is an important fact, because it is a solid base for the elections that will take place in the next 5 or 6 months.

[Reporter] Given this new electoral outlook, will APRA consider an alliance with the United Left to run against FREDEMO [words indistinct]?

[Garcia] I am sure that given the results of these elections, APRA will participate in a second round. What may happen from now on must be decided by our candidate and the party leaders.

The important thing, however, was that we obtained 20 percent of the votes under difficult conditions; that must be taken into consideration. Just look—these elections took place 6 months before the end of this administration, and APRA obtained nearly 21 percent or more of the votes.

In the previous administration, elections were held 18 months before the end of the government's term, and the ruling party obtained 11 or 12 percent of votes. Consequently, this is an important and encouraging result.

[Reporter] However, Mr President, what are the points on which political parties should meditate in the wake of Belmont's success?

[Garcia] Look, the first thing to be done is to support him and congratulate him. We should also rejoice over the victory of a young, optimistic man—who seems to be determined to call upon people to work. I am sure that my fellow party member Mercedes Cabanillas, who has played a major role in the election, has also reacted in this way.

The victory by Belmont has led to the conclusion that political parties have been displaced. I believe, however, that one should not jump to hasty conclusions.

Throughout centuries and millenniums, politics has expressed itself through parties. Only seldomly can individual figures add anything. The natural course of political life, however, rests on parties.

On this point, I am in full agreement with Fernando Belaunde. It is the people's membership in political parties that strengthens democracy and institutions. That is why it is so important that APRA should remain the largest sector—as a political party and not as a front.

I believe that we have to support and congratulate Belmont. We should also congratulate the Armed Forces and the police for their magnificent work. We should not forget that now we should be more alert than in the past, because subversives and terrorists did very little on the day of the election. We should not rest on our laurels.

The country at large has hailed the elections as a celebration of democracy. The subversives and terrorists, however, are probably designing a plan to thwart this celebration. They are probably choosing a target to hit or an action to undertake in order to show to the world that the people have not defeated them through the elections.

I call upon the police and the Armed Forces to be more alert than before, because the fact that no serious incidents happened on Sunday does not mean the subversives are not preparing a major attack to show that they are still active, despite the massive participation of the people in the elections.

[Reporter] Does that mean a red alert for the Armed Forces and the police?

[Garcia] Yes, I believe the wisest thing to do is to emphasize intelligence, surveillance, and strategic action—now even more than during the elections. In fact, I believe that the terrorists—for strategic reasons—attempted no major action on Sunday. They waited until the elections were over to try to destroy the image that all Peruvians have built before the eyes of the world.

I have been reading newspapers from all over the world, and I have received information through the embassies about the major impact that the elections in Peru and the crowds in Ayacucho's main square have had throughout the world.

I am sure that terrorists will attempt to do something to destroy this positive image that we have built.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Do you believe it will be necessary to completely restructure the APRA leadership, as some APRA members have demanded?.

[Garcia] No, I believe that it is necessary to join efforts, to focus on positive aspects, and to reaffirm that the party is still strong—despite this tremendous, massive pressure and despite the obstacles that violence and the political and economic crises have created for the government. The party is still sound, APRA is still a party, and this is the most important thing. APRA is a party, not a front created around an appealing figure or driven by budgetary ambitions. APRA is a party.

I believe that we APRA members should close ranks behind the party presidential candidate, that we should extend our full support to him, and that we should faithfully commit ourselves to the defense of our principles, ideals, and candidate.

Minister Comments on Protection of Candidates

PY1511195089 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Interview with Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla by reporter at Jorge Chavez international airport "after dedicating police computer center" at airport; recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Mr Minister, security measures have been enforced to protect candidates during the municipal and regional elections. Will the mayors-elect continue to be protected?

[Mantilla] Of course. We have provided for the security of not only the candidates but also the authorities throughout the country. Mayors-elect have become authorities whom we will properly protect, considering that terrorists might make attempts against them.

[Reporter] Terrorist attacks have been reportedly staged against some candidates, and even against the Huanuco airport. It has been reported that there was an attempt to steal the ballot boxes in Huanuco region. What can you tell us about all this?

[Mantilla] Eleven of the approximately 50,000 candidates have been attacked over the past 4 months. I believe that this figure—painful as it is because no one should have died—faithfully reflects the quality, the devotion, and the will of the Armed Forces and the police to provide security to the elections, to the candidates, to the authorities, and to the people at large. [passage omitted]

* Lack of Judges in Remote Areas Analyzed

90ET0023A Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Oct 89 p 3a

[Text] Due to a lack of economic resources and the increasingly dramatic climate of violence, many positions for judges and prosecuting attorneys in inland areas of the country are not filled. This has created an enormous vacuum of government, law, and order.

This issue was raised by Dr Luis Edmundo Pelaez Bardales, the president of the National Association of Magistrates, in commenting on the bloody events which took place recently in different parts of Peru.

He pointed out that "the bodies or organisms of criminal control—the police, the public prosecutors, and the courts—for various reasons are not playing the true role which they should. Thus, in an inexorable way, the rule of law continues to weaken."

He expressed with concern that "in many places in the interior of the country police posts and stations have been practically abandoned, and personnel assigned to them have been transferred to other areas."

He remarked that, due to the aforementioned factors, the organisms defending the law and the courts do not exist in extensive areas of the country, a condition which has been aggravated by the promulgation of Law 24967.

Request That Law Be Changed

This situation prevents attorneys who are not members of the judicial branch of the government from acting as assistant judges in superior courts and in agrarian, labor, and labor community courts.

The law referred to provides that vacancies which occur shall be filled by judges assigned to inferior courts and by assistant judges.

For this reason, Pelaez Bardales proposed that said law should be changed so that, as an exceptional measure, lawyers not belonging to the judicial branch of the government should be appointed as temporary judges in cases where there are not enough judges or assistant judges to fill vacancies.

Terrorists Bomb Train; Attack Other Targets

PY1611151689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0624 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Puno, 14 Nov (EFE)—Police sources have reported that at least three people were injured today during a terrorist attack against a passenger train in the village of Juliaca, in southeastern Peru.

According to the same sources, considerable damage was caused by the bomb thrown by alleged members of the Maoist Shining Path at the train coach in the Juliaca station, some 60 km north of Puno, capital of Puno Department, 1,315 km southeast of Lima.

This is one more attack to be added to the long list of Shining Path attacks in other parts of Peru, such as Ayacucho, where three youths who had acted as balloting table presidents in the municipal elections on 12 November were murdered.

There have also been terrorist attacks in Huanuco Department, in the Peruvian central mountains, where members of the Shining Path bombed the airport in the town of Huanuco—the department's capital—and in Amarilis, where a policemen was injured while he and other members of the security forces were trying to prevent ballot boxes containing votes from being stolen.

In Lima, police sources have reported that two homemade bombs went off and damaged the offices of the Confederation of Private Entrepreneurial Institutions [Confederacion de Instituciones Empresariales Privadas] (Concavo), which is made up of several Peruvian businesses.

The Concavo offices are in the San Isidro residential district. Police sources have reported that the two bombs, which were placed at the office's door, did not cause injuries.

Venezuela

Perez Urges Rebels To End Salvadoran Offensive

PA1611011789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2357 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Caracas, 15 Nov (DPA)— Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez made an appeal today to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) to end the offensive against the forces loyal to the Salvadoran Government.

In statements made in Caracas, Perez reiterated his offer to have the upcoming round of talks—between the

guerrillas and the ultraconservative government of Alfredo Cristiani—in Caracas. However, he noted, hostilities must cease in that Central American nation.

"I would like the meeting to be held, but the FMLN offensive must undoubtedly cease because it is impossible to hold talks under such conditions," the president said.

"There are new victims, since the corpses of hundreds have been picked up in the streets as a result of this meaningless and purposeless war," Perez added.

The Venezuelan president said that Venezuela supported the OAS petition asking the FMLN and the government to respect the Tela and the Esquipulas II Peace Agreements.

A meeting between representatives of the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas had been scheduled for 20 - 21 November in Caracas. However, up to this time, it has not been confirmed. The possibilities for holding the Caracas meeting are very uncertain in view of the recent events in El Salvador.